# The Pioneer

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Photo by Hannah Lawson

Luke Flynn during one of his triweekly swims at the Prince Edward Fitness & Aquatic Centre. Flynn is a Special Olympics swimmer, and despite his Down syndrome diagnosis, is a thriving member of the community, having gone to college and now holding a job with the OPP.

# Disability pension tough to live on

By Hannah Lawson

Typically an individual who does their own laundry, feeds themselves, has integrated themselves into their community, and financially support themselves wouldn't be considered extraordinary, but factor in being born with Down syndrome, and the story is a different one.

Luke Flynn, now 25, was born two minutes after his fraternal twin Sam, something that his parents joke Flynn is forever irritated by. Having a twin brother who was born without any intellectual disability allowed Flynn to be encouraged his entire life to be the best he could pos-

"My parents taught me well," Flynn says in his single bedroom apartment in Picton, in Prince Edward County. "They were tough, but they had to be, so that I could get to where I wanted to be. I couldn't have done it without them."

Flynn has been living in his own apartment for nearly three years, and be-

fore that, he lived on residence with his close friend, Kai Freeland, at Fleming College in Peterborough while they studied culinary.

"It was one of my dreams when I was in college— I wanted to get my own place," Flynn says. "I just wanted to do that because I found that I liked it, it changed my life, and now I'm doing things on my own. Before, I wasn't doing that. I'm really enjoying it."

Flynn's parents found that after his years at Fleming, their son had a newfound interest in living independently of them. "After living on residence, he didn't want to live with us, he wanted his own place. And that's kind of what we were shooting for, because we aren't going to be around forever, and if he can do it by himself— with help from Community Living— then we've done our job," Flynn's father Mike says.

Early in Flynn's life his parents began training their son to be more independent, and one way of doing this was send-

ing him to summer camp. "He came back from that camp more independent every year. He couldn't have cared less if we were on the moon," laughs Flynn's father.

Flynn is one of the more fortunate Canadians living with an intellectual disability. According to a study led by the Council of Canadians with Disabilities, working-age people with disabilities are twice a likely as other Canadians to live below the poverty line.

"I guess because we can afford to help him out, it's good for him and he can live alone. But if he didn't have that I don't know that he could do it," says Joyce Wade, Flynn's mother.

Flynn's main source of income is the social assistance program in Ontario for those with disabilities, called the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). Once an individual who has a disability turns 18 they are eligible to apply for the benefit, which provides them with financial support for their basic needs, including housing, and medical care. Flynn re-

ceives about \$1500 a month, and that is to pay for all of rent, hydro, Internet, cable, and food. After that, there would be no money left over for 'additional' activities, such as sports, transportation, entertainment, if he didn't have additional support from his parents. This is why Flynn is fortunate, as his parents support helps him to participate in community events such as Special Olympic meets, go out with friends, and support his love for Call of Duty Zombies.

Flynn also receives a small monthly wage from the job he holds with the OPP. Twice weekly, he details the cruisers at the Picton OPP detachment, a job that Flynn is always ecstatic about.

"Every day he says, 'I love my job. I can't wait to go back," Wade says. Flynn's parents also said that their son would love to work more, and be able to support himself more, but because of the way ODSP is set up he is better to work minimally.

"You're almost better off not to work, because if you make more than \$200,

you're losing on the other ahead. It's a catch-22; it inhibits the desire to move up, because you are being cut at the same time," Flynn's father says.

Those who receive ODSP and are employed are given what is called the 'income employment exception', which really means that after the first \$200 earned monthly, half of the money an individual earns is taken off of their ODSP cheque.

"If Luke got a third day [at his job], instead of two days a week, it would affect ODSP. If it didn't affect ODSP then he would probably work the third day because he loves to work," Flynn's father says.

Before 2013, the income exception didn't even exist, so any work that individuals did was cut at 50 per cent. The ODSP Coalition, a province-wide organization that fights for the rights and dignity of those with disabilities receiving ODSP, lobbied hard for the exception, but are working to increase the exception to \$500 before money is taken away.

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#### Syrian family officially welcomed to Quinte

By Hannah Lawson

The Syrian Al Mansour family was welcomed into Canada in early December at the Ottawa airport by a small group of Belleville residents holding up huge signs reading 'Welcome to Canada, land of safety,' But it wasn't until this Wednesday evening that the family was officially received into the Quinte community.

In late September, congregation members from St. Matthew's United Church and Bridge Street United Church came together and decided to sponsor a refugee family escaping the war in Syria. Initially, the group was 18 people and only two churches were involved, but it has since grown to more than 60 members who are from multiple faiths, including the Bahá'í faith, Islam, and people from the general Belleville community.

"When people have an opportunity to become involved in such a positive project, I think it is very uplifting for them to come together as community members, as an ecumenical group. It's a wonderful opportunity for the community to pull together," said Carolyn Ketcheson, a member of the sponsorship group from Bridge Street Church.

A potluck dinner and welcome ceremony was held at Bridge Street Church, which was attended by an enormous number of community members. Organizers largely underestimated the number of interested individuals, and quickly



Photo by Hannah Lawson

The Syrian Al Mansour family, (from left) Layth, Ahmed, Taym, Maysoun and Firas, at Bridge Street United Church on Wednesday, their official welcome into the community. The family was sponsored by a number of groups in the Belleville community, including two United churches, and arrived in Canada on Dec. 7. The integration team of the group who sponsored them has been hard at work integrating the family into the community.

for extended seating. In addition to the Al Mansours, another Syrian family that also recently moved to Belleville was welcomed, who happen to be close friends of the Al Mansours.

"This was the first formal opportuni-

had to set up tables in the gymnasium

"This was the first formal opportunity for our family to be introduced to the community that brought them here, so it is a celebration of the fact that phase one is complete," Ketcheson said. The next step, which is currently underway, is integrating the family into the community.

The family of five — mom, dad and three sons all age 14 and under — were very happy to be received so warmly, but also expressed being somewhat nervous. Priority has been placed on teaching the family English, but while still in the learning stage, a couple of men from the Syrian community in Belleville have stepped up boldly into the role of translators for the family, and many other Syrians who have since arrived.

"I am nervous, but am so excited about everything everybody has done for us," said Ahmed Al Mansour, the father in the family, through one of the translators, Jamal. "It's been perfect, everyone is very nice and welcoming, and the community is so open-minded."



Photo by Hannah Lawson

(From left) Luke Flynn and Kai Freeland enjoy one of their shared favourite pastimes, saving the world by shooting up zombies in Flynn's bedroom.

### Poverty a reality for those on ODSP

#### Pension...

Continued from Page 1

Jennefer Laidley, research and policy analyst at the Income Security Advocacy Centre, or ISAC, sits on the policy and research committee for the ODSP coalition, and is intimately knowledgeable about the coalition's stand on ODSP issues.

"People could be thinking even if ODSP doesn't provide me an adequate income, at least it's there, and I don't want to jeopardize that by going to work," Laidley said in phone interview from Toronto. "For the majority of people on ODSP who are primarily single people that don't have spouses or children, poverty is a day-today reality. The amount of income that ODSP people receive both on the ODSP program and benefit programs outside of ODSP, the total incomes from those benefit sources is far less than the poverty line. So the vast majority of people on ODSP are living in poverty as their daily existence, and it is enforced by the very program that they rely on because benefit levels are too low.'

According to data provided by Poverty Free Ontario, in 2011 the poverty line for an individual without a family was \$19,930. Individuals who received ODSP in 2011 would be given a maximum yearly earning of \$13, 032, which places them nearly \$7,000 below the given poverty line. Even if employed, the clawback and the enormous gap to even the poverty line will relegate these disabled Canadians to a life of poverty.

Some people such as Flynn are dearly loved and supported by family members, but others are not as fortunate. What happens to these marginalized individuals?

According to Northumberland-Quinte West MPP Lou Rinaldi, the clawback is an issue that has been heard, and is currently in the process of being

"We're looking at it because that argument has been heard already, and to see how well we can best address that possibility," Rinaldi says.

"The potential of removing the clawback is a part of the 2016 budget, which hasn't passed yet, so it's a bit of a different process, but you have to remember that they do keep all of their benefits that they're getting."

The federal budget will be released next week, which will delegate money to the provinces and their social programs.

"We'll be looking to see what they announce in the budget on March 22, but I haven't heard anything yet that there will be any plans for big increases to the provinces for social assistance, but that would be one way that the federal government can address these issues," said ISAC research and policy analyst Laidley.

For a video look into the successes and issues relating to those who live with a disability, go to:

https://vimeo.com/159357776

#### **Brain Injury Association Quinte gets support** from Loyalist's public relations students

Boxing for Brains brings attention to impact of head injuries **By Ashley Maika** 

Loyalist College public relations students organized a fundraising event in support of the Brain Injury Association Quinte District at The Stache, on North Front Street Friday night.

The event was inspired by Gary Scott, who was struck on his motorcycle by another vehicle going 152 km/h.

The collision with Scott and the other vehicle caused Scott's helmet to fall off, and when he rolled over the car, his head struck the pavement.

John Moodie, one of the PR students organizing the event, said that when they were brainstorming about what kind of fundraiser to have, he remembered a story he had covered about Scott and his battle with recuperation after his brain injury.

Although the event was called Boxing for Brains, there was no boxing.

Jennylee Swallow, executive director of the Brain Injury Association Quinte District, said an event involving a sport that puts the brain at risk may defeat the purpose of spreading awareness about how to prevent brain

Tickets were \$30 and included a roast beef dinner, access to a silent auction of itmes that had been donated by local businesses, and guest speakers.

Among the guest speakers were two individuals who know all about the importance of protecting your head from harm: Canadian heavyweight boxing champion Dillon Carman and retired NHL player Shawn Antoski, who also suffered a depressed skull fracture in a car accident in 1997.

Both athletes spoke about their experiences with brain injury and how important is is to raise awareness.



not feel he received enough of it after

pathy and understanding... People just

support to overcome a brain injury.

"It really is a big team that works to-

The event brought out 65 people and

raised approximately \$1,600 for the

Brain Injury Association Quinte Dis-

gether on one individual person."

expected me to get over it."

"I think there needs to be more em-

Swallow agreed that it takes a lot of

his brain injury.

Dillon Carman and Shawn Antoski at Boxing for Brains hosted at The Stache on North Front Street. As professional athletes, both Carman and Antoski were guest speakers for the fundraiser.

Antoski said that he came out to the event because "it's something near and dear to my heart. 'I've also suffered a significant brain injury. My career was ended due to a car accident and what transpired and how hard it was to recover... It's something that needs to get out there and people need to be made aware."

Antoski's opinion is that precautions and procedures need to be enforced to keep people safe.

In terms of support, Antoski does

'I think there needs to be more empathy and understanding... People just expected me to get over it.

Shawn Antoski

#### family... Continued from Page 1

**Syrian** 

Present for the evening's events was Belleville Councillor Garnet Thompson and Chief of Police Cory MacKay. After giving a brief speech, Thompson was delighted to present both Syrian families with city of Belleville crests.

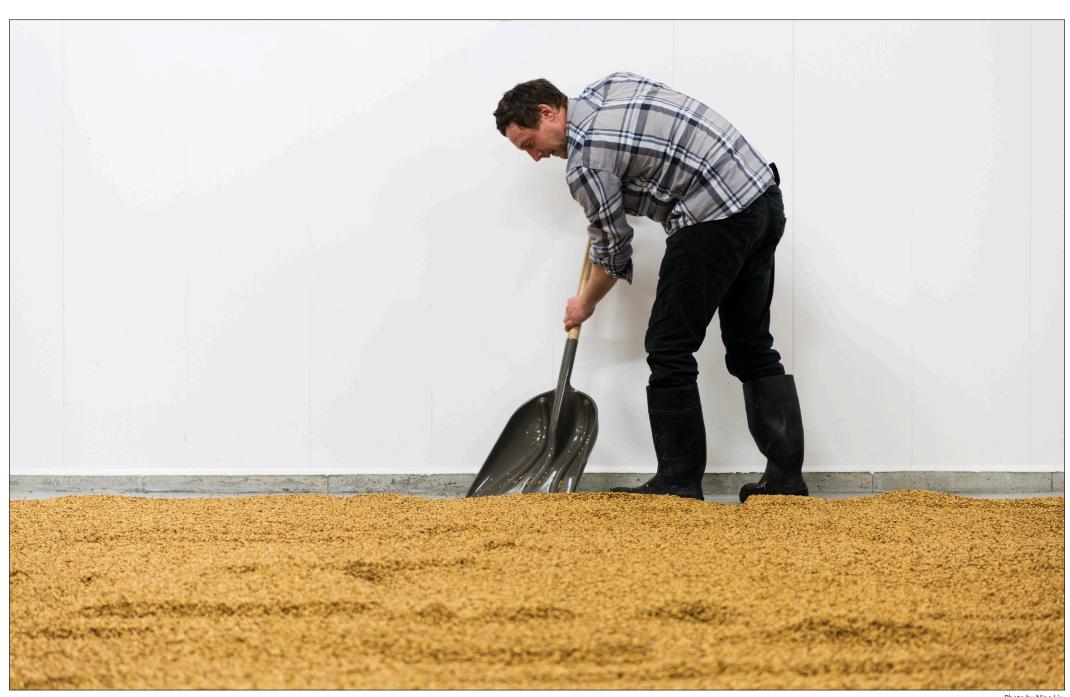
As part of the welcoming activities, a video comparing images from before and after the war in Syria was played for the audience. It was clearly very difficult for the Al Mansours to watch, especially for Ahmed. By the end, his shoulders shook with uncon-

Next on the roster was a joyful rendition of This Land is Your Land, which everyone was encouraged to stand for and clap along to. Following the sing-along, the Syrians were given a brief glimpse into Canadian history as a video of traditional Native American hoop dancing was displayed.

Áhmed Al Mansour also gave a speech near the end of the evening's events, and thanked the government, Belleville, and members of the church communities for the good they have done for his family. He shared a bit about the family's experience transitioning from a happy and satisfied family to refugees. Al Mansour worked over the words slowly, and with heavy emotion. After the war started, the Al Mansours lived in misery and depression for three years.

"So we gave up when we had no more food. We escaped to Libya and received the worst treatment we have ever had," Al Mansour said. He went on to say that they are living in peace and happiness now.

"It's very interesting. I haven't been involved in many group projects of this size that remain so positive throughout, because everyone was focused on the common goal to initially get the family here, and then secondarily to help them achieve a successful integration into the community, and we are witnessing that happening every day," Ketcheson



Devin Huffman paves over barley on the floor in the malting room. Huffman opened the first micro-malting business within Ontario.

## Stirling micro-malting an Ontario first

Couple faces many challenges as business gets off the ground

By Nino Liu

The first micro-malting business within Ontario is finally coming to fruition. Devin Huffman and wife, Leslie Huffman, owners and maltsters of Barn Owl Malt, are currently malting a few batches of barley for some craft beer breweries as a trial for their newborn business just outside of Belleville.

It has been about a year for the Huffmans who have been creating the malting business since they got the permit. Since it is the first micro-malting facility of this scale within Ontario, Huffman has hit some challenges. There was no example laid out before them, no other malting-house to get advice from in relation to Ontario by-laws.

"It is so new, that there is no section of the building code or by-law that said this is how you deal with a malt house," said Huffman. "During the negotiation process, the City of Belleville has been really positive and encouraging the idea."

Not only are they the first in Ontario, but they are also using an old European style for the malting process, called floor malting. Floor malting is the historic European technique of preparing barley for fermentation by spreading it strategically



Devin Huffman dredges barley tank in the malting room for spreading steeped barley out. Huffman is the owner of the first micro-malting business within Ontario.

across a clean floor of the malting house. It is a technique that has disappeared as large scale, industrialized malting took over. Currently it is making a come-back alongside the craft-breweries to satisfy the field-to-glass movement more thoroughly. A few micro-malt houses have started up recently in the U.S in the last five years, as well as a couple across

The Huffmans who have always been in support of the craft beer industry, originally were thinking about starting a micro-brewery, but as they begun researching the logistics of operating a brewery other interests peaked. Where

do local breweries get their raw ingredients? Their are numerous hops farms across Ontario, but when it came to malt houses Ontario came up short.

Then Huffmans found out that most of ingredients are coming from the west, which are mainly standard base malts, and in some cases even from Europe, which are mostly specialty malts.

"I felt that wasn't the greatest scenario, so I tried to close the gap a little bit," stated Huffman.

So they began plans for their malt house and developed a thorough understanding of the malting process, specifically the Floor Malting process.

The wetting is a really important process at the beginning, because it dictates how quickly and evenly the barley germinates. The whole objective of malting is to have the barley grains germinating and metabolizing to break down the complex starches into simpler starches for building up a reserve of enzymes. Then the enzymes convert those starches into sugar for brewers.

"You need all of different barleys to be metabolizing and working at a similar rate. We control that at the very first step with steeping by adjusting immersion periods, rest periods and temperature particularly," states Devin.

Comparing with fully automated and mechanical system, floor malting has its own advantage on customization. For small batch craft malting, floor malting is very suitable because it can produce really high-end malt with certain characters, flavours and colours.

Since they are still in the process of building, there is still a long line of equipment the Huffmans hope to purchase to give their malts a wide range of characteristics.

"We are not set up to do any roasting yet," said Devin. "But it is on the schedule to get a roasting system in place. Then we could run everything from a white pale malt up to a black burnt

To maintain a local product, the Huffmans gather barley from different growers across Ontario, keeping it separate so that the end product of malt can be used within the region they came from. So barley bought from Prince Edward County farmers would be used in micro-breweries within the county. The

'There is really strong opportunity out there in **Prince Edward County,** because the industry there is so focused on local ingredients, specifically Prince Edward County grown.

Devin Huffman

county is a key growing region that has a long history of growing malting bar-

There is really strong opportunity out there in Prince Edward County," said Devin, "because the industry there is so focused on local ingredients, specifically Prince Edward County grown.

From Guelph to Ottawa, farmers and brewers are showing interest in Barn Owl's malt which allows breweries to have an end product that is completely local, closing the industrial loop for both growers and producers. Some breweries that have invested equipment in agriculture and grown their own grains may not be able to malt their own grains. The Huffman's agricultural business provides that opportunity to fulfill that field-toglass ideal.

"The step of malting is not significant, so sometimes you can see some breweries that have got the grains, but they can't get them done together. That's when we can come in and help fill the gap," said

#### Over 3,000 inbibe at first Craft Beer by the Bay

Music, beer and sun bring out great numbers for first-ever event

**By Charles Vilagut** 

With spring just around the corner, people hopped to the Empire Square for Belleville's first-ever Craft Beer By The Bay event.

Over 3,000 people were estimated to attend the Craft Beer By The Bay event Saturday in downtown Belleville, for one of the largest food and culture events to be seen in the area.

With live music provided by Ed's Garage, food from Café E, and Mother Nature providing the sunshine from east to west, many people said the event was a success.

Barb Forgie, one of the event organizers says, "We're way over expectation. We're really genuinely surprised, and really happy that it's as great as it is. I'd say that throughout the day there have been over 3,000 people easily."

From The County Cider Company in Waupoos, PEC, to the Highlander Brew Co. all the way up in South River, there were 15 local craft breweries and wineries from across southeastern Ontario, gathered in the Empire Square serving some of the best suds, cider and wine.

"It's a great opportunity to try all of the local breweries and wineries! It's a great idea to keep the local economy



weather, food and drinks brought out over 3,000 people to downtown Belleville for the event.

Photo by Charles Vilagut

Ken Nunn and Dan Jolly attended the first Craft Beer by the Bay event held in the Empire Square March 12. Great

happening and having a social event when spring's happening. It gets everybody out after the long winter," said event goer and beer drinker, Arlene

People from across southern Ontario came out to see what Quinte had to offer, and no one left disappointed. Even though some of the lineups just to get to the beers were up to an hour long, people were more than happy to wait it out in the warm breeze to try the next beer on their list, and if anything, the wait got people more excited once they got to the front of the lines.

"I've actually only tried two. I've had the apple cider from Waupoos which is really good, but I'm waiting here for the cranberry raspberry cider, which is arriving here in five minutes," said T Tanner as she waited in line for The County Cider Company.

"I'm very excited. I've been waiting for over an hour, but in the meantime I've had the coffee chocolate type from the Highlander group, which was really good."

This was the first year the Empire held an event like this. With Quintelicious just recently happening, and more events going on this summer, downtown Belleville is looking forward to a great summer, and so are the

Bonnie Blakely says, "The event is really good," Bonnie Blakely said. "You see lots of people you know, the beers are all good, the food's good, the sun is shining! Can't ask for more than that!"



Photo by Phil McLachlan

Colourful opening ceremony

Brad Denys, a longtime Cirque Du Soleil performer and theatre choreographer, directs the dancers of Quinte Ballet School as they rehearse the opening ceremonies to the 2016 Floorball World Championships coming to Belleville in May. When Denys began this creation in February, he started with one idea. "Because they did so well, I was able to go to the next drawing, picture, or design. It was a co-creation, as creation should be. "These dancers are only 24 people out of the whole opening ceremony cast. There are also 25 bagpipers and drummers, as well as 60 kids from the amateur floor ball association in Belleville who will kick off the show with a bang. In addition, there will be two professional actors leading the ceremonies as various colourful "clown" characters who will introduce each team in style. For the video link, go to: <a href="https://vimeo.com/159371856">https://vimeo.com/159371856</a>

#### Young theatre group delights audience with pirate tale

By Ashley Maika

Shiver Me Timbers, a Young Company show at the Stirling Festival Theatre, livened up March Break for its viewers on Wednesday.

From March 11- 19, the show plays at 2 p.m. and 7.p.m. at the Stirling theatre. The pirate adventure, written by Ken Macdougall, is a tale is told by Mary, a now elderly pirate with quirky friends about her early

pirate adventures, including storms, ship-wrecks, mer-men and treasure.

The Young Company comprises its cast with children and teenagers.

The show drew a large audience. Very few seats were left empty and were mostly filled with families with younger children.

"It's fun for all ages, but it's especially for the 8-12 year old range," says Managing Theatre Director and the Young Company Director David Vanderlip. Although adults could be heard laughing in the crowd at some of the jokes, certain funny moments had young children giggling in

The uniqueness of the play is its young cast.

Vanderlip says the Young Company has existed about as long as the Stirling Festival Theatre, but he took it over about four years ago.

"I made it very experiential and youth based." Vanderlip says. "The previous one sort of used the kids as extras and I have the kids do the entire show. They get a chance to be on a professional stage with a professional director, and full choreography. They get to experience everything from the auditions, to the rehearsals, technical rehearsals and then this time, we had nine performances."

The young actors showed off this unique experience throughout the play, performing multiple choreographed dances, and some even added singing in to the mix. Afterwards, they also gave

autographs for viewers in their costumes.

Vanderlip says that it wasn't all fun

and games, however. Auditions started the second week of January on weekends and the rest of the process runs right to the end of March Break until the final show.

So far, *Shiver Me Timbers* has had positive reactions and Vanderlip has high hopes for the rest of the shows.

Tickets are \$10 and can be bought at the box office or online.

# Paralympic champ shares his story

By Hélène Roth

Laszlo Décsi, 81, a Canadian paralympic champion and gold medalist but also a veteran, draftsman, drafting teacher and driver's education instructor has lived an interesting life.

He recalls part of his journey, which began in Hungary, and the different lifestyles he came across during his very busy

After serving in the army for three years, he was advised to leave his own country when the 1956 Hungarian revolution against communism began to break down.

"I was in the army for three years, and during the revolution, the whole country came apart, so my lieutenant told me, 'Get lost,' so everybody headed to the border and all the soldiers went out west," Décsi said.

From there, he crossed Austria in order to join Italy, more precisely to Genoa's Harbour, where would get in a ship to Canada.

"In November 1956, we took off from the army and then ended up in Austria. From there, we headed to Genoa with the people that left Hungary and then we came across to Canada. There was a big storm, so it took us 14 days instead of

From there, his Canadian journey started in British Columbia where he quickly found a job as a draftsman. He went from one job to another and ended up in Ontario where he met his wife in Port Hope. He worked in Toronto, Hamilton, Peterborough, and finally end up working in Madoc, while living in Tweed, where a whole new chapter of his life began

At the age of 39, married and a father of three children, Décsi changed careers and began to teach drafting as well as driving's education training at night.

A bad accident when he was an instructor resulted in him losing his leg, but just a year later, he came back to teaching and soon decided to take up shooting guns.

"In '73, I guess I got my first gun and then I shot down with the world champion in Frankfurt."

From there, Décsi picked up on the sport and began qualifying for championships. At the time, he competed with the abled-bodied, joined the Ontario shooting team and went to the Ontario cham-



Photo by Hélène Roti

Laszlo Décsi, an Olympic and paralympic Canadian champion, shows and explains the way he hold shis weapon and gun shooting competitions. Although he is unable to practice anymore after losing a big part of his vision, the delight of picking up his gun is instantaneous.

pionships.

He would go on to compete in the summer games, the national games, the summer Olympics in Montreal, Que. in 1977 and in Edmonton, Alta. for the Canadian nationals with stops in Thailand, Arizona and Mexico.

He then joined the amputees team in the 1980s, went to Holland for the disabled Olympics where he got second place. He went to the paralympics in Long Island, N.Y. in 1984, to Korea in 1988 and

Barcelona in 1992, where he won the gold paralympic medal in mixed free pistol.

"In '92, I got the gold medal in Barcelona and then I got screwed. I went one more time to Atlanta and I got the shingles and I kind of fell apart. I came in fourth, I guess," Décsi said.

Up until a few years ago, Decsi kept shooting almost every day in a room specifically built in his basement. Despite all the medals and the competitions, shooting was more of a hobby and a sport for Décsi than a competition or a job. The light in his eyes when he talks about it says it all.

Asked to reflect on the adventures of his life and the reasons that led him to compete and succeed as a paralympic champion, the now elder but still really active man looks at it humbly and simply as a hobby that got him to more places.

"It was just a sport to me. They took my leg off and then I couldn't play soccer anymore so I had to find something different so I started shooting in the club and then I got better at it so I just went along with it!"

Looking at the years behind him, it is with a touch of humour and acceptance of his natural aging condition that Laszlo rants light-heartedly about his condition, but more so about having to leave his dearest hobby behind.

"See, since I got this stupid eye problem I can't shoot anymore, so that's the end of it! Don't get old!"

# The many FACES of Belleville





Canada's Mary Fay takes a shot during the VoIP Defender World Junior Curling Championships 2016. Team Canada won gold. "It feels amazing to have won this with my best friends," said Fay. "It's surreal and hasn't sunk in yet."

### Photo student gets experience of lifetime

By Marissa Tiel

Their shouts echo around the arena, bouncing off the metal-domed ceiling and the sheet of ice. Calls of *hurry, hard, whoah, sweep, no, yep, go* come from everywhere in the curling club. On the ice in front of me are 10 teams competing in a round-robin, each with the hopes of making the play-off round where they hope to win a gold medal and become the new junior world curling champions.

My lens is pointed at the sheet closest to me when Richard Gray, the World Curling Federation's chief photographer silently comes up beside me. He moves with a grace uncommon for a man of his stature. "Really gets into your head doesn't it," he says in his Scottish lilt. And it's true. All the brouhaha had lulled me into a zone, firing away shots. I have no idea how much time has passed. To my great dismay, the players are still on the same end.

I'm in Taarnby, Denmark, a small village on the outskirts of Copenhagen to photograph the VoIP Defender World Junior Curling Championships 2016. Last fall, I applied to the World Curling Federation's media trainee program in the hopes of being chosen to help document one of their upcoming competitions. A few weeks later, a strange phone number popped up on my caller ID. It was from Scotland and the voice on the other end of the line was saying that I had been successful in my application and was going to my first choice competition to take place in Erzurum, Turkey.

Just over a month out of the start date, we switched venues however, which is how a ragtag group of Swedish, Scottish, Russian, a token Brit, a Norwegian and a pair of Canadians all ended up sharing the same makeshift office space off the ice at the Kastrup Curling Hall. Desk space is a hot commodity with the live TV crew, results experts, TV commentators and media operations all sharing the same weight room. Between live TV sessions, the camera guys sleep wedged between iron plates, splayed out on the treadmill, and sometimes just on the floor.

On Saturday, between the chaos of on-ice practices, Richard and I set up a makeshift studio in the curling club's foyer. As a former junior national team athlete, I appreciate the importance of a good accreditation photo, which is why I carted my lighting kit across the Atlantic and how, on a gray afternoon, I ended up shooting head shots of more than 100 athletes from across the world in a bright orange foyer.

As we work in the tiny space, the WCF's writer Mike Haggerty is busy talking to the teams trying to discern which of them speaks English. Richard meanwhile is taking the team photos, which will become our lifeline over the next week of competition as we learn the names of all the athletes for captioning and keywording our photos. Every day we will upload images to the WCF's library, which will be made available to the national curling federations whose teams are competing in the tournament.

Later Richard takes me on a tour around the sheets, to show me where I can and can't take photos from. Only by the end of the week will I feel comfortable enough to confidently frogger my way behind the sheets during games. I learn about the hog line and the courtesy line. The benches lining the outskirts of the boardwalk around the sheets soon become my best friend, getting off the ground so as to minimize distracting elements in the pictures. Getting a clean background becomes an art. Event sponsors in the background are good; fake potted trees are bad.

Our routine stays the same every day. Breakfast at the hotel, walk to the venue, shoot the morning session, eat, shoot the afternoon session, eat, shoot the evening session, walk back to the hotel, fall into bed, wake up and do it all again the next day.

At the Kastrup Curling Hall, you're close enough to touch the teams, hear them swear and have fits, see them high five and smell them.

When you spend 40 hours shooting the same athletes, you start to pick up on their habits and quirks. Swiss third Romano Meier would crack a Coca Cola and drink it during a game, the Hungarian third, Henrietta Miklai, would often cock her head to the side while she watched her shot go down the sheet, American skip Korey Dropkin would look down the ice as he glided to the other side of the sheet, kiss his hand and point to the house, Canadian skip Matt Dunstone would take his broom stick and smack it on the ice before shoving off for his shots. Some of

the players were screamers, others were very quiet. If you got a shot of a quiet screaming, well that was something special.

I still won't pretend to know anything about ice conditions, other than that the pebble, which is carefully sprayed by a Scot with a backpack full of liquid and a nozzle helps the stones to curl and makes the ice much less slippery than say, a hockey rink. This is something I'm quite thankful for as Richard and I photograph the finals. The games are taking place in the middle of the club, so we get to stand on the sheets parallel to them to shoot. It offers a new angle for us to shoot. I have a first-row seat to document first the Canadian women win gold, then the men win bronze. And as the last game of the tournament - a rematch between the USA and Scotland -approaches the final stones of the tenth end, I get myself into position, training my camera on skip Bruce Mouat, a quiet, as he readies himself to take the shot. The club is eerily quiet and as Mouat pushes off, his feet and the stone sound like the far-off sound of applause. He easily makes the shot and slides to the ice, head in hands for one quiet moment.

"They shot the lights out," says Dropkin.

As we return to the hotel for one final tim

As we return to the hotel for one final time, the sky is starting to darken. The gear that I've hefted around for the past eight days is now a familiar weight. I've shot more than 5,000 frames, logged many hours in the freezing club, editing in front of the computer and drank a few litres of coffee. But it's an experience that I wouldn't trade for the world.



(Above) The Turkish men's team sweeps a stone into the house on day three of the VoIP Defender World Junior Curling Championships 2016 on March 8.

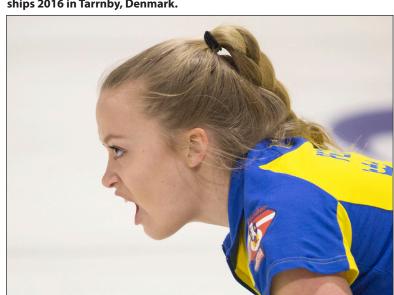
(Below) Scottish skip Bruce Mouat slides to the ice after winning the VoIP Defender World Junior Curling Championships 2016 on March 13. "I feel a lot more relaxed than I thought I was going to be," said Mouat. "I was quite chilled. We controlled that game from the start and that probably contributed to how I felt."





(Above) Axel Sjoeberg of Sweden watches over Daniil Goryachev of Russia's shoulder as Goryachev's shot makes its way down the sheet. The Russian men's team was relegated to the junior-b world championships next year.

(Below) Sarah Pengel of Team Sweden shouts as she watches her shot go down the ice. The Swedish women's team placed fifth at the VoIP Defender World Junior Curling Championships 2016 in Tarrnby, Denmark.



Phil McLachlan asked people at Loyalist College the following question:

Should we reduce the number of non-refugee immigrants to compensate for the 25,000 influx?





Ross Hodunko, first-year justice studies, "Refugees can be an advocate for Canada's future. I think it (immigration) is positive, since immigrants can work and benefit the economy. But we should be careful, slow down and normalize the situation."



Jeff Wildgen, secondyear architecture,
"Personally, I think
we'll let the powers that
be decide and figure
out what's required
to keep the economy
running. If it means
compensating by
allowing fewer regular
immigrants in, then
we'll have to do that
...until the system can



Amanda Salinas, first-year child and youth care, "I'm on the fence. If we have people coming in, they'll benefit the economy. But maybe we should take breaks in letting people in to let everything setting."



Melanie Loiselle, thirdyear television and new media production, "We should still take in the regular amount of immigrants, regardless of how many refugees we're taking in. The refugees may not be here forever, they're here to be helped back on their feet."



Katelynd Morin, firstyear esthetics and spa management, "I don't think it's fair for regular immigrants not to be able to come, even though we accepted all these refugees. Maybe we need to even it out, I'm not really sure. This is a tough question to answer."



Carter Johnston, third-year animation, "I feel like we still have enough room in this country to keep bringing people in. Things are obviously not working out nicely over there, and they need a place to stay. I think people should be nicer to immigrants in general."

# Taking control of immigration should be focus

Canada should control the number of immigrants coming into the country and instead needs to focus on creating stronger generations instead of simply creating a larger population.

A more stringent immigration policy could reduce overcrowding because of population, ease the political turmoil of letting more people into the country, and help solve the economic predicament of having to support immigrants.

Instead, Canada should focus on having stronger generations of Canadian immigrants in aspects of economics, psychology, health, education and the environment.

This would require considering policy changes. Multicultural policies have been in effect within the Canadian government since 1971. The Government of Canada website page on multiculturalism states: "Canada recognizes the cultural heritage and potential of all Canadians. We encourage everyone to be part of Canada's social, cultural, economic and political affairs."

According to CanadIM, a global immigration law firm, in 2016 there have been 10 agreements to make changes to immigration laws. These laws will affect families and independent immigrants. Depending on the situation of the immigrant, there are large varieties of programs that people can use to support their move to Canada.

A program for international students is a part of the Trudeau government's plans to improve the quality of immigration in Canada. It will become more accessible for students to gain Canadian citizenship through the Canadian Experience Class program. The Family Class Sponsorship of Canadian immigrants with families abroad who would like to come to Canada will have an increase in numbers for sponsorship of parents and grandparents. Bringing children in their late teens or early 20s will become more achievable with the increase of the age of dependent children. Canadians with siblings who would like to immigrate will also receive special consideration.

There are a variety of programs to help immigrants settle in Canada. These include language classes in both English and French, assistance for lifestyle guidance, financial guidance, job banks, transportation and health care.

The physical health of Canadian immigrants is crucial. When the new changes are added, health care for immigrants will be re-established and be evaluated case by case.

There is a difference between refugees and immigrants. Refugees come to Canada to safeguard their lives, while immigrants choose to move to another country to improve conditions of their lifestyle. This causes a divide between immigrants versus refugees to be accepted as Canadian citizens.

Whether an immigrant or refugee, Canada is a country that is working in an organized way to guide its population to become strong Canadian actions of the string of the st

Robyn Hertz

# Fracking crash could be good for Canada

The crash of the fracking industry because of plummeting oil prices could be the best thing that ever happened to Canada.

Hydraulic fracturing (fracking) is "the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc., so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas." This technique gives us access to oil never before reachable.

The result of this power results in a global excuse to wait even longer before considering the realistic mass production of environmentally friendly power solutions.

Natural gas is a non-renewable resource. At our current rate of consumption, we will exhaust this resource in about 60 years, according to the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook 2014.

Fracking has been a heated topic lately with American politics.

Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton stated that she was in favour of fracking, but only if it was highly regulated. When describing this opinion in further detail, Clinton mentioned that, "by the time you get through all of my conditions," she doubted there would be much frack-

ing occurring in America.

The opinion of Democratic rival Bernie Sanders on this matter was a bit more blunt. "My answer is a lot shorter," he said. "No. I do not support fracking."

Sanders seems to share the viewpoint of France, looking to follow suit

in their recent ban on fracking and closure of a nuclear plant.

Fracking has already been halted on and off in many areas of the States, including Texas, which at one time was the leader in United States

oil production with over 6,000 drilling sites scattered across the state. In terms of the potential repercussions of cutting oil ties with other countries, not to worry. A recent study showed that Saudi Arabia may go broke even before the U.S. oil industry crashes and burns.

"The costs are a thousand times worse than the benefits," said Benôit Hartmann, a spokesman for France Nature Environment. "We know that the arguments that our opponents make are strong... We know that when you face a crisis like we are now, it's more efficient to argue that you'll create jobs, that you'll reduce your dependency, that you're sitting on a gold mine"

But he believes that France's natural beauty, the health of its people and the future of the planet will all be imperiled if energy companies are given free rein to extract shale gas, which remains, after all, a fossil fuel that contributes to global warming. Fracking was halted in British Columbia after a 4.6 magnitude earthquake occurred in Fort St. John on April 15 last year, just kilometres from a drill site. A CBC article released shortly after the phenomenon stated that, "The phenomenon is called "induced seismicity." Studies have linked fracking with earthquakes in the U.K., Oklahoma, and in B.C., but it is not clear what role — if any — fracking played in the 4.6 magnitude quake this week."

This speaks to the potential danger of hydraulic fracturing, and it is

earth's warning that we should stop before it's too late.



Opinion

#### Bombardier bailout shouldn't happen

By Nick Tardif

A bailout for Bombardier and the Beaudoin family appears to be in the cards, as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Liberals continue to blur the lines between capitalism and socialism.

Bombardier, a failing Canadian aerospace and transportation manufacturer, has once again requested billions of dollars in hand-outs from the federal government in addition to the billions it recently received from the Quebec government, and the Caisse de dépôts et placement du Québec. The Caisse de dépôts et placement du Québec are the administrators of the Quebec public and para-public pension plans.

Quebec public and para-public pension plans.

The Quebec government recently gave Bombardier \$1 billion for a 49.5 per cent stake in the C Series jet program, while the Caisse de depots has put up an additional US \$1.5 billion, for a 30 per cent stake in the company's train division. The additional funding provided by the Quebec government and Caisse de depots, further intertwines the fates of Bombardier, the province of Quebec and the rest of Canada.

Bombardier is a publicly traded company on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbols BBD.A and BBD.B. These two symbols represent two different classes of shares with different stakeholder voting rights. The different shareholder voting rights have drawn criticism from the investing public as well as those in government who are opposed to the Bombardier bailout. The BBD.A shares come with 10 votes per share while the BBD.B shares only have one vote.

The Beaudions, the founding family of Bombardier, hold 53.4 per cent of the voting rights. As such, these dual class shares provide the Beaudion family with complete control of the company regardless of what its stakeholders may think.

These issues of governance are one thing when it relates to a publicly traded company funded solely with private investor capital, but they are an entirely different spectacle when the funding comes from Canadian taxpayers. All funds transferred to Bombardier can be deployed at the discretion of the Beaudion family and its hand-picked board of directors. Bailing-out Bombardier literally means handing over billions of taxpayers' hard-earned money, to a company that hasn't made an annual profit since 2013, with suspect governance, no strings attached.

The obvious governance issues aside, when you tie the fate of Quebec and its public pension plans to this deal, you are essentially saying that Bombardier should be allowed to gorge itself on taxpayer dollars for the rest of its existence, for the fate of the public pension

plan is resting on the shoulders of Bombardier and the Beaudions.

Of course, the justification for this bailout is quite simply jobs. Bombardier has recently announced 7,000 layoffs worldwide with 2,800 in Canada. This comes as a proverbial shot across the bow of the Liberal feds. It's a warning that more layoffs are likely to come unless additional taxpayer money is handed over.

This is exactly what happens when governments get themselves into bed with businesses, especially businesses with bad governance.

Jobs? What about Alberta and the oil patch? According to the Financial Post, Alberta lost 63,500 jobs in the first eight months of 2015, which is more than the entire fulltime Bombardier workforce worldwide.

In 2014-15, the Canadian Finance Department reported Quebec as being the recipient of \$19.6 billion in federal transfer payments with a large chuck of that coming from Alberta's oil patch.

While politicians politic and Bombardier awaits a Trudeau handout, the Quebec government casually begins intertwining the fates of Canadians and those of Bombardier and Beaudion family, all while stifling Alberta's hopes of an energy east pipeline.

Is this really where you want your tax dollars

#### Bumper sticker users should clean up their act

By Nakita Krucker

There is a time and place for bumper stickers, like showing your solidarity towards a particular cause such as breast cancer awareness, that aim to promote a business or maybe just trying to add some comic relief to someone else's day.

Then there are the necessary ones that state the obvious. A gentle nudge to remind you to put on your seatbelt or that you need to keep a bit more distance from the back of the car in front of you. You also may want to tell other drivers who exactly is part of your family, including your pets.

Then, every once in a while, comes along drivers who use bumper stickers to inform the public about exactly who they are. They inform you of their nationalism through their beliefs on immigration, or their views on the opposite sex by telling well-crafted jokes about mothers.

The invention of the bumper sticker has been

credited to a screen printer from Kansas City, Forest P. Gill, in the late '40s. Before Gill discovered that self-adhesive paper could be used on the bumpers of automobiles, drivers used handmade banners tied to their vehicles with twine to advertise their beliefs and opinions.

By the time the 1960 presidential election in the U.S. rolled around, bumper stickers had made the bumper banners obsolete and were a clear way for voters to share their patriotism and voting tendencies.

Since then, bumper stickers have continued to be a stylish form of expression for all drivers. As well, they have continued to feed a patriotic surge from time to time, like the recent bumper sticker "TRUMP: Make America Great Again" which has started to ignite and unite like-minded Americans.

But bumper stickers are no joke. While some unite, others can get you an unwanted staycation. Tarah Ausburn, a Toyota Prius hybrid owner and Arizona high-school teacher, has 61 bumper stickers on her car but it was just one of those stickers that got her fired.

"Have you drugged your kid today?" reason-

ably questioned her bumper sticker.
Unfortunately, her efforts to criticize our society's tendency to over-medicate did not go over well with the school board or parents of her students.

It's not hard to spot the unfortunately overused "Caution: this vehicle makes frequent stops

at your mom's house" bumper sticker.

But if you're looking to be entertained, a quick scroll through the Internet can show you the gems of the bumper sticker world — "Lost your cat? Try looking under my tires," "Without men, civilization would last until the oil needed chang-

ing," "Keep the queens out of the marines."

The list is endless and yes, people do feel the need to place these outdated, obnoxious slogans on their mode of transportation.

So thank-you for informing me that your other ride is my mother and stay classy, bumper sticker drivers.

### The Pioneer

The Pioneer is currently produced by photojournalism students for Loyalist College and the surrounding area. In the spirit of the pioneers who settled our community and who were rooted in tradition, these pioneers always had an eye on the future. Our students strive to serve the public interest, seek the truth and uphold the highest standards of our profession.

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Phil McLachlan

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Ryder looks onto his mom Courtney.



Ryder lives throughout the week from Tuesday to Thursday with his dad, and his dad's parents.

(Left) Although some children do not like veggies, Ryder enjoys them.





s four-year-old Ryder Pomfret-Jones presses his nose up against the wide window at his dad Dylan's house, the steam from nis breath creates a thin layer of fog buildup. There is frost from the cold November afternoon taking away from the visibility, causing Ryder to wipe the window with his small hand, searching for his mom Courtney's car to turn the corner onto Southview Avenue.

Ryders' parents, Dylan and Courtney are no longer together.

In a generation where different culture, beliefs, and lifestyles are more accepted, marriage is no longer seen as an absolute necessity for parenting children. Most people do not have children with the initial thought of getting divorced afterwards, while others do not even have the initial plan to have children.

Although Ryder was not planned, he has been gifted with having the love of both parents and families to support him. He pend's four days of the week with his mom, her boyfriend and little sister, and the other three days with his dad and both randparents. He is found surrounded by love.

Living with both families, Ryder is learning what is right and what is wrong, through multiple generations of parenting skills and knowledge.

Ultimately, Courtney and Dylan have found an environment that works for the growth of their son and for them. However, sometimes what ends up happening rather than both parents settling on fair terms, is that the resentment of the parents to each other is put onto the child, negatively affecting their mental state, and causing them to have future difficulties

Delilah Records, is only one of the millions of people living in constant question about her family, as her father left her mother when she became pregnant. Never having met her dad, Records recounts how she has always had questions about her life. "I never had a huge desire to find 'Daddy' since he clearly did not want to be part of my life..." Record says, "but as I get older and older, I have wondered many times if I have any half siblings, and of course you wonder about medical issues on his side of the family that I will never know."

According to Stats Canada, the 2011 census counted 3,673,305 households with one parent, and 3,524,915 with both. For the first time, Canada has had more single parent homes. That means that from 2001 to 2011, the proportion of one-person households increased from 25.7 percent to 27.6 percent. A trend that continues to grow.

"I definitely do not trust people with my heart, men and women. My heart has been broken many, many times. Like most women, I wanted the fairytale ending. Fall in love, engagement, wedding, buy a house, then you have a child in that order! Did that happen? Nope. I will never understand what it would be like to be Daddy's little girl or have Daddy walk me down the aisle... Did he get married and have more daughters or sons? Does he ever think of me?" says Records.

These are the same questions millions of people around the world ask themselves everyday. In the end, the underlying factor is that everything has its cause and effect.

Curtis Locke, father of Layla, 4, knows this and is doing what he can to make sure that he is present in his daughter's life to

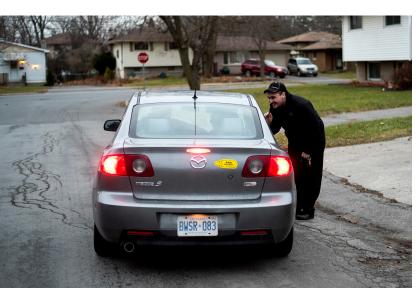
make her as happy as can be. "My dad and mom would get into fights. As I grew up, I'd notice this more and more. My dad would take out his frustrations on my mom, on us kids. And as I grew up, I always swore to myself that I would never be that person; that I would never take out my frustrations, no matter how bad they were with, my spouse, on my kids," says Locke.

Most of the time, when parents split, it is the mother who takes custody of the child while the father gets visitation time, or something agreed upon.

www.singleparents.com states that in 2011, approximately 82.2 percent of custodial parents were mothers, and 17.8 percent of custodial parents were fathers. Evidently no child wants to have split parents, but there are things that can be done to help in the understanding of the situa-

tion. Some parents of today's generation understand that their child's future and how they perceive their family's relationship is "I can go over there for Christmas morning," Locke says, "so we'll open presents together, cook breakfast together, 'family

atmosphere' and Layla won't know the difference, which is what we're really gunning for here. We want to raise her so that even though she knows, that mommy and daddy don't live together, there is still family love, and there can still be that family atmosphere, and there doesn't have to be the fighting and the bickering, and everything else that seems to go with it these days."







(Above) Dylan waves goodbye to Ryder as they are about to return to Bath, Ont. Thursday's Courtney picks up Ryder at Dylan's house in Belleville to start their routine over again in

(Left) 'With great power comes great mask mid-fight with his grandpa. Ryder can be found fighting bad guys from Belleville all the way to Bath.

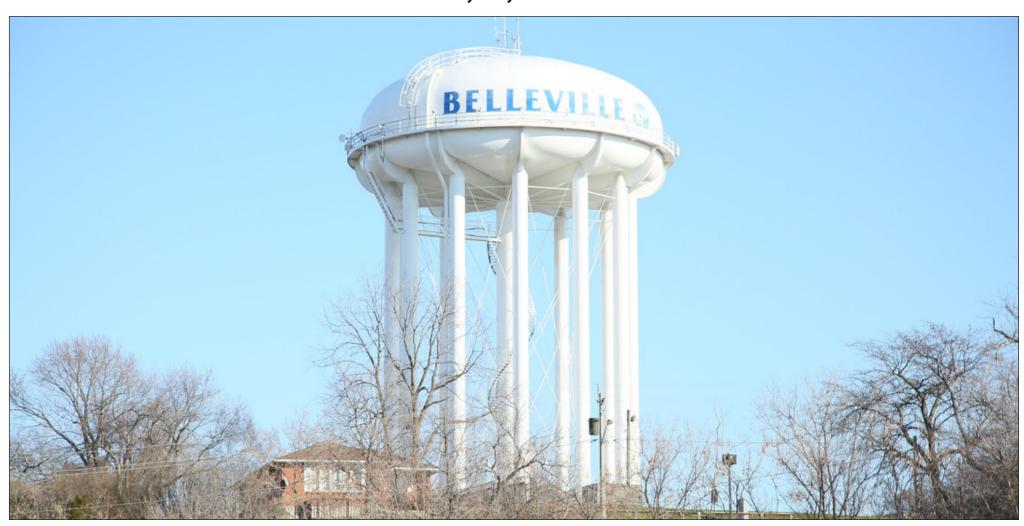
(Below) Dylan helps his son Ryder put on his pyjamas after bath time.



Ryder changes out of his standard pyjamas and into his Spiderman ones, just because he likes Spiderman.

#### Water Handling Management

By Robyn Hertz



The Belleville water tower was built in 1957. The water tower can hold 3,409,570 liters of water.

Water conservation is crucial to the sustainability of Canadian water on the municipal level. Government officials feel that citizens need to learn economic and social behaviours to help improve water use on the municipal level.

In 2006, the government created the Clean Water Act to construct source protection plans of municipal water. This included the Quinte region. This came into effect on January 1, 2015. It includes the protection of water sources from contaminating social and economic behaviours both by the government and its citizens. The project is overseen by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

Dangerous economic behaviours that are unsafe for water sources include gasoline, both used by the population of cars and the gas stations.

Toxic chemicals used on the municipal level by homeowners use for cleaning or pesticide usage in gardens. Even placing salt on roads can cause damage to water sources. These merchandise disintegrate in the rain and snow and travel into the cities drains and then into the larger water supply.

A social behaviour to develop in order to protect water sources is reading. Simply reading a label for harmful contaminants can help save water. A second behaviour is to make use of the municipal household hazardous waste depot.

These along with making natural ingredient selections can keep household chemicals such as dense non-aqueous phase, DNAPLs, liquids out of the water.

DNAPLs are toxic carcinogens that can affect the body's central nervous system through the consumption of the substance in water. Even with use on the household level. These chemicals are found in simple products such as glues, cleaning products and nail polish remover. They are in metal cleaners, paint removers and dry cleaning products.

Citizens that learn social and economic behaviours that can help save water are key elements of what is needed to save our environment.



A Belleville water plant operator Greg Mills, is holding up a tube of water that has been mixed with DPD free chlorine to adjust the chlorine levels to provide Belleville residents with clean water.



Dewe's grocery store water shelves, worker Thomas Cowey is stacking the shelves dedicated to water.



Loyalist College public relations student Brandon Black is filling up his canteen at a water hydration station. Buy choosing to refill a canteen, he is increasing the number of plastic water bottles saved on campus through hydration stations.

