

Area's boat builders ready for Toronto show

by PETER SPOHN

Boat builders in the Midland-Penetanguishene area will be well represented at the Toronto Boat Show, which opens tomorrow at the Canadian National Exhibition's Coliseum building.

ACF Grew Inc. of Penetanguishene, Express Yachting of Midland, and a Port McNicoll boat builder will have displays at the boat show, the biggest in Canada and one of the biggest in North America.

The Toronto Boat Show runs from Jan. 10 to Jan. 20. It is greeted with much anticipation by boat builders plugging their product lines. Grew will have the biggest display at the

show with all Grew product lines and several ChrisCraft models, which the company manufactures under licence, on view. Grew president Peter Francis said yesterday that the boats will range in size from Grew's new 10 foot racing cub, which sells for \$3,000, to a 42 foot ChrisCraft cruiser, which sells for approximately \$275,000.

The Penetanguishene company will have about \$750,000 worth of boats on display, Francis said. Sixty-five percent of the models on display will be Grew lines, and the remainder ChrisCraft.

Grew is the largest manufacturer of power boats in Canada. The company has been

represented at the Toronto show for more than 25 years.

Between 20 and 30 Grew dealers in Ontario will be manning the company's display during the 11 day show.

Nineteen eighty-five marks the biggest year for Express at the boat show, Express's production manager Stewart Jones said yesterday. "We are extremely positive about this year's show," he commented.

The Midland sailboat manufacturing firm will display its Express 30-M model, Express 30-PC, and the top-of-the-line Express 35, a new model which sells for approximately \$105,000.

This is the seventh year the company has attended the Toronto show.

Dealers retailing Express boats in Ontario will man the booths and company representatives from Midland will also be in Toronto.

Vic Carpenter, a builder of wooden boats with production facilities in Port McNicoll, will also be at the show. A reporter was unable to contact Carpenter but the boat builder in previous years has had one of the most popular displays at Toronto's boat show.

Carpenter makes replicas of old model launchers and is also in the boat restoration business.

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Penetang Atoms a top team

The Penetanguishene Atom team, a finalist in the recent Wasaga Beach Silver Stick hockey tournament, lost to Erin 7-4 in their last game, but will

travel in February to Sarnia to take part in the International Silver Stick tournament.

Less than hoped for

Funding OK'd for sewers, treatment plant

Construction of a new sewage treatment plant on Fox Street and installation of storm sewers on north end Penetanguishene streets costing a total of \$2,721,000 are expected to get underway this year now that provincial government funding for the project has been approved by the Ministry of the Environment.

The Town of Penetanguishene was informed recently that MOE would cover 43 percent of the cost of the combined project. The town had hoped that MOE would pay for 75 percent of the project. Today town clerk Yvon Gagne is meeting with

Ministry officials in Toronto to discuss financing of the project.

"We are delighted that the ministry has approved funding but we did think originally that it would be for 75 percent," Gagne said yesterday. He said that the municipality will have to go back to the Ontario Municipal Board for formal approval of the present financial arrangements but that approval had already been received for the project, with provincial funding at 75 percent.

Gagne said that the municipality is now ready to call for tenders for the project. Of the

\$2,721,000 capital costs, \$1 million is slated for construction of the sewage treatment plant.

The plant will be located on Fox Street near the Baymoorings property. The plant will service homes in the north end of town and will augment the municipality's existing sewage treatment facility on the Penetang waterfront, near the centre of town.

Sanitary sewers will be installed on the north end of Broad Street, on Church Street between the Mental Health Centre and Don Street, Cambridge Street, and possibly on Robert Street East, Gagne said.

No overnight parking in town

The Penetanguishene Police Force reminds town residents that parking is not permitted on any street inside town boundaries between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m.

The bylaw prohibiting overnight parking is in effect until April 1.

If a vehicle parked overnight is blocking Public Works Department snow removal crews, it could be tagged and towed away. The cost to recover the vehicle is \$35.

Residents are also reminded that snow removed from private property is not to be deposited on public roadways or sidewalks.

Gasoline prices take sudden jump up

Even though there seems to be a surplus in world oil stocks and the world price for oil is slowly falling, the price of gasoline at local service stations has taken a dramatic jump. The average price of

gasoline in the area jumped by 5 to 6 cents a litre. The price of regular gasoline at the Petro Canada station on King Street in Midland went from 43.9 cents a litre to 51.1 cents. At the Gulf station on

Main Street in Penetang, the price rose from 48.1 to 51.4 cents a litre for regular gas.

Texaco's King Street, Midland station is at 51.4 cents a litre, up from 47.3 cents a litre for regular gas and the

Pioneer Gas Bar on Vinden Street, Midland reported its prices nosed up from 46.2 cents a litre to 50.7.

The price of home heating oil seems to be holding steady, at around 36.5 cents a litre.

None of the dealers contacted felt that the price would rise.

Some of the dealers explained that the dramatic jump in the price of gasoline was due to the recent price wars coming to an end.

Quebec victories hearten francophones: FLAC chairman

Recent court victories by Quebec Anglophones fighting against their provincial government's restrictive language legislation are giving this area's Francophone community reason to be optimistic about future redress of grievances held by Ontario's French-speaking community.

In recent weeks, a Quebec court ruled that the Parti Quebecois government's Bill 101 provisions banning the

use of English on signs in is contravention of the Canadian constitution. A couple of years ago, a Quebec court of appeal struck down another Bill 101 provision which allowed only the children of English-speaking Quebecers to attend English-language schools. Few exceptions were permitted. Now, the children of English-speaking parents who move to Quebec from other parts of Canada, and parents in Quebec who wish to educate

their children in English schools, are allowed to do so.

Simcoe County Board of Education French Language Advisory Committee (FLAC) chairman Claudette Paquin says that while Ontario's French-speaking minority finds itself faced with circumstances different from Quebec's Anglophone minority, Ontario Francophones can take some heart from their Quebec counterparts' recent

victories.

"We would hope that the Canadian Charter (of Rights) comes through for the French in Ontario as much as it has for the English in Quebec," Paquin said yesterday in a telephone interview.

Paquin said she thought some of Bill 101's provisions are widely regarded as being "abusive." She said it is difficult to compare Quebec Anglophones to Ontario Francophones, but

there are areas, particularly in education, where Francophones would like to see progress.

Paquin said that while the Ontario Ministry of Education now permits the establishment of French-language schools in areas "where numbers warrant" the policy is somewhat vague and does not adequately address itself to the issue of quality in education.

"It's most important to have relative quality

between French schools and English school of comparable size," she commented. Paquin said that there is one parent in Simcoe County who is now fighting to have quality of education in the province's French schools the same as in English schools. She suggested that in some cases the French-language schools offer a more limited range of education options than English schools of comparable size.

As well, Paquin said

that Francophone parents are attempting to have a greater say in how French-language schools are operated. She said they would like to see the same level of management by Francophone parents in French schools as Anglophones in Quebec have in their schools.

"The new constitution made it possible for citizens who dealt with an abusive law in Quebec to change it," Paquin said. "That's a good thing."