

# Schreiber applying for emergency vehicle

Schreiber Council has decided to apply for a Joint Emergency Planning Program (JEPP) Grant in order to obtain and equip an emergency response vehicle.

Deputy Fire Chief G. Ross approached council with the idea at the Jan. 13 general council meeting and he gave a brief summary of the facts.

The emergency response vehicle would be used by the fire department to respond to calls involving hazardous materials. There is a wide range of these materials going through our area by highway and railway, Ross told the *News*.

Chemicals such as chlorine and sulphur and even dynamite is transported through our area.

The area that would be covered by the vehicle, said Ross, would be from Gravel River to Steele River and any

areas pertaining to the CPR.

The purpose of the vehicle is not to clean up any spills but to rescue and protect people at the scene and to secure the scene. The main concern is people's lives, he said.

The vehicle would be "an on-site command vehicle" with an on-board computer system that would provide all the information needed pertaining to different chemicals with specific instructions about what to do, said Ross.

The communication system could call back to base or even tap into a telephone line, he added.

The JEPP grant would provide funds over a three-year period for the equipping of the vehicle. The total cost is estimated at \$51,200, 50 per cent of which would be covered by the grant.

Councillor Tom Quinton said that he

thought it was "an excellent opportunity" and that "we should really take a look at it."

Councillor Gerry Godin voiced a concern that perhaps money is given to set up the program but not to keep it going after that.

Ross noted that every five years the federal government decides if more money will go into the program. He added that the program could be stopped within the three years if there are no funds.

Ross told council that it is up to council how much will be spent and he added that whatever that amount is, it will be equalled by the grant.

"You spend a dollar, you get a dollar back," he said.

The federal government is becoming more aware that small communities like Schreiber do not have the kind of

money it takes for a project like this, said Ross, and that's why the grant covers 50 per cent of the cost.

Council noted that this project will create an added strain on the Fire budget for the next three years. But after some debate, the resolution was moved and carried by council.

Ross said he will know by the first week in April if the application has been accepted and if funding has been approved.

In other business, the motion to increase building permit fees was moved by Councillors Quinton and Godin and carried by council.

The basic fee is \$10 per permit, for the construction, alteration, repair or demolition of a building.

The rates are 0.25 cents per square foot for footage over 400 square feet

and 0.10 cents per square foot for all floors except the main floor and basement.

Schreiber Council received a letter from the Curling Club requesting that taxes and water and sewer charges be forgiven for a period of two years.

Council requested that a meeting be arranged to discuss the matter with the club.

Councillor Quinton noted that some years the club does well financially and other years it does poorly.

A resolution to increase the price of lots in the R-271 subdivision was moved by Councillors Quinton and Godin and carried by council.

Normal-sized lots are \$16,000 and large-sized lots are \$18,000. The \$2,000 rebate will be retained.

## Ministry responds in letter to council re: Terrace Heights

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has responded positively to Terrace Bay Council regarding the Terrace Heights bottleneck problem, the *News* learned at the Jan. 12 council meeting.

Northwestern Director of the MTC, W.D. Neilpovitz, in a letter sent to Reeve Chapman, said that the Township could now carry out some improvements on its own. As well, the ministry will conduct survey work at Terrace Heights in the spring with results expected in June.

"With the 300 homes in the subdivision," the letter stated, "concerns were expressed on the one lane situation at Ridgewood Drive, especially under situations such as last June (the fire)."

In this regard, it was agreed that the Township could alter the posts and gates to provide for two lane access, provided that it continues to be kept locked and only used under emergency conditions."

The MTC also stated in the letter that alternatives prepared by the Township for possible improvements to traffic circulation in the Terrace Heights subdivision look good, but that further study will be required for impacts on property and construction difficulties.

As well, the MTC will look into the feasibility of a right turn lane, the signing for speed limit reductions on the approach to Terrace Bay (concerns were expressed that westbound motorists entering Terrace Bay may not always realize that they are in a reduced speed

zone) and the geometrics of the approach to the intersection at Terrace Heights.

### Scenic lookout

Neilpovitz also said in the letter that the possibility of a scenic lookout on Highway 17 near the Hydro tower will be reviewed further.

Terrace Bay Clerk-Treasurer Larry Simons told the *News* that a joint request by Schreiber and Terrace Bay concerning the lookout will be presented to the MTC.

Schreiber Clerk-Treasurer A.J. Gauthier said that nothing (the request) is official yet.

### Information centre

The Township of Terrace Bay is also looking at setting up an information centre as part of the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation's NOTICE program (Northern Ontario Tourist Information Centres Enhancement Program).

Clerk Simons said that Terrace Bay could probably use a centre like this and he added that the MTC has provided him with information regarding this.

The Chamber of Commerce is interested in the centre, but as yet, nothing has been done.

"We are going to look into it," said Simons.

# Terrace Bay Schreiber

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## Late 1987 starting date for Winston Lake mine

Commencement of operations for the Winston Lake mine is planned for September of this year, Superintendent of Employee Relations John Smrke told the *News*.

The mine's operations will accelerate to full production by the end of 1987, or by Jan. 1, 1988, Smrke said.

The project was all set to begin in October of 1985, when zinc prices took a dramatic and sudden "nose dive" mainly due to the federal government's

subsidization at that time of the Cyprus-Anvil zinc mine in the Yukon, Smrke told the *News* in July of last year.

### 30-35 local jobs

Once the mine begins operations, there will be 135 employees, and between 30 and 35 will be local people.

Smrke said that mining is a skilled profession, and because this is a pulp and paper town, most of the skills needed in the mine cannot be found here.

Primarily, those local people hired will work above ground. He said that it is not inconceivable though that a few may work underground.

Some of the underground jobs, he noted, can be learned.

The other 100 employees are being hired from mines from all over.

Smrke said that the base metal industry is going through a downturn. Nickel prices are falling and many mines are slowing down, resulting in an available workforce.

Smrke mentioned that Falconbridge in Sudbury laid off between 250 and 275 employees two months ago and that the mine in Ignace is shrinking.

The Griffith mine near Ear Falls is also slowing down.

Companies laying off people have an obligation, and so do the unions, to jointly form an advisory committee to help find work for these people.

Committees like this one have made Smrke aware of these available workers.

The committee takes inventory of the workers' skills, the types of skills, their availability, and their level of training, said Smrke.

### 10-year project

Enough drilling has been done now that it is known there is enough ore in the ground to sustain operations for 10 years, Smrke told the *News*.

He added though that rarely does a mine start and stop when it's supposed to.

In the course of the next 10 years, he said, exploration may find more ore to sustain the operation for longer

### Concentrate refinement

Smrke informed the *News* last July that he did not know where the mine's concentrate would be refined. He told the *News* last Friday that likely the zinc concentrate (which will be the primary extract from the mine at 105,000 metric tonnes per year) will be refined in Valleyfield, Quebec.

The copper concentrate (at 11,000 metric tonnes per year) will be refined at Noranda, also in Quebec.

### New homes

Another new development over the last little while is also the fact that construction for new homes for incoming workers will not be necessary now.

Smrke said that if he was asked whether new homes would be necessary three years ago, he would have said definitely.

But now with the recent developments at Kimberly-Clark, Smrke said there seems to be ample housing.

Smrke said that Corporation Falconbridge Copper has submitted an application to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for their review and approval of the underground zinc/copper mine and milling complex.

Two open house public information meetings will be held so that the public can review and discuss the mine's operating plans.

Falconbridge Copper and Environment Ontario representatives will be on hand to answer questions.

The meetings will be on **Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.** at the Schreiber Legion- new hall, and on **Thursday, Feb. 26 from 7-9 p.m.** at the legion hall.

Anyone that is planning to operate a new mine is obligated to write to the MOE for approval, Smrke said.

Because of the milling process at Winston Lake, there will be waste on site. A lot of this waste will be put back underground to settle and then later us-



Christmas lights

Pictured above is Shirley Opas, left, the first place winner of the Christmas Lights contest. She was presented with a cheque for \$100 on Jan. 14 from John Smrke, centre, from Corporation Falconbridge, the company that donated the

first prize. At right is Hycaninthe Landry, president of the Horticultural society. Mrs. Opas had a grand display of Santa Claus and reindeer and huge pine cone wreaths.