

# Constable loves working with kids

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Fenton, who has been a constable in Terrace Bay since 1977, most-recently came from Nipigon where he was a heavy equipment mechanic with MacMillan-Bloedel.

Fenton and his wife Jean have been married for 16 years and have three children; Lee-Anne, 14, Lori, 10, and Robert, 5.

Fenton told the *News* that while he was in Nipigon, he applied to several places for a position as a police constable-Terrace Bay accepted.

"A month after that, Thunder Bay wanted me too," he said, "but it was too late."

Fenton went to the Ontario Police College where he spent 15 weeks on probationary training.

One difference from being a mechanic was the drop in pay when Fenton first started as a constable; from just under \$20,000 to \$12,000 per year, he said.

Why would an equipment

mechanic want to be a police constable? "I was interested in the job," said Fenton.

Fenton has been interested in the policing field since he was in high school, but he never took the idea seriously until he was about 26-years-old.

Fenton believed then that the older he got, the less chance he would have of being accepted. He was "young enough to convert," he said.

Fenton's father and his father's father were both mechanics. Fenton was around cars and trucks from the time he could walk.

Fenton was born in Manitoba and has lived in places in Northern Ontario like Pickle Crow, Red Rock, Red Lake and Nipigon.

He spent his senior public school grades and high school years living in Red Lake.

Then it was off to Russell, Manitoba, where he had his own garage. Fenton married soon after

opening his garage.

After operating his garage for some time, Fenton became assistant roads superintendent with the Improvement District of Balmertown, now the Township of Golden, near Red Lake.

It was after this that Fenton began work at McMillan-Bloedel in Nipigon just before coming to Terrace Bay as a police constable.

### Most dangerous time

Fenton told the *News* the most-dangerous situation that occurred to him was when he was hit by a stolen car on Hydro Hill back in '78-'79.

He said he was out on the road assisting the Schreiber OPP on a matter near the old dump road.

On his way back to Terrace Bay, he noticed two tractor trailers stopped on Hydro Hill. He stopped to see if they needed assistance. He learned one driver had lost the clutch from his vehicle.

Fenton had stopped and was talking to the drivers as the three stood shoulder to shoulder. Fenton then noticed a car coming over the hill.

He said that he and the two drivers stepped closer to their vehicles to get out of the way of the approaching car but it picked him off anyway and sent him flying 40 to 50 feet down the road.

Fenton suffered from a broken arm, a compound fracture and a lot of bruising in the accident.

He spent a couple of months in the hospital and was off work for seven months. He explained that two youths had stolen the car in Thunder Bay.

After Fenton picked himself

off the road, one of the truck drivers that he was talking to drove his police cruiser, with him in the passenger seat, and the two chased the car toward Terrace Bay.

The driver lost control of the vehicle around the Aguasabon bridge and the car stalled.

The truck driver then had to chase the kids. They were later charged with theft and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.

Fenton said the truck driver was nominated as a trucking hero.

Although Fenton has seen his share of scary incidents, he said he never felt at any time that his

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August 22, 1711- Thick river fog on the St. Lawrence thwarted Admiral Walker's assault on Quebec. Eight of 15 warships were wrecked and 884 men drowned.

September 9, 1986- It last rained in Vancouver on July 17 breaking a 35 year-old record for lack of precipitation.

Vancouverites usually panic when they receive a week of sunshine, wondering if it's ever going to rain again.

Their prayers were answered- 0.2 millimeters of rain fell in Vancouver, the first moisture in 54 days.

October 2, 1986- Some days are more eventful than others but Oct. 2 is noteworthy because no unusual weather has ever occurred on this date.

This day is devoid of major storms, unseasonal heat or cold waves or untimely frosts and snows. Once again, the forecast for this day is for no surprises- enjoy it!

November 8, 1986- A monster winter storm reminiscent of the March 1960 blizzard dumped 30 to 50 centimetres of snow and created two metre drifts in southern Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario.

During the 32-hour storm, Winnipeg buses and ploughs were pulled off the roads and the airport was closed; two deaths resulted and there were \$2.5 million in clean up costs.

December 10, 1986- Mild Pacific air produced unusually balmy weather across the Yukon, the Mackenzie district and Northern British Columbia.

Several daily records were set when temperatures rose to between 10 and 13 degrees.

At Fort Nelson, B.C., huskies were bothered by the heat during the annual dogsled races and to the north logging was suspended because of the soft snow and weakened ice bridges.

## Council vote on A&W lease

At a special meeting of Terrace Bay council on Monday, February 15, the resolution was carried that council enter into an agreement with Bagdon's Limited for lease of the recreation centre restaurant;

**In favour:** Jim Ziegler, Bil Houston, George Ramsay;

**Opposed:** Mike King, Chris Joubert.

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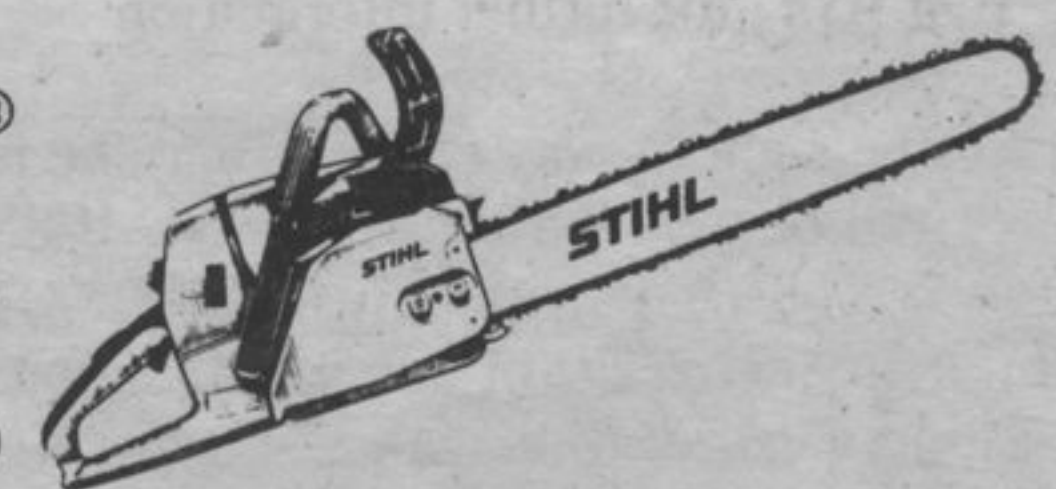
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