



**BELLUZ Realty Ltd.**  
Simcoe Plaza  
Box 715  
Terrace Bay  
Ontario  
POT-2W0

Juris Zdanovskis  
Broker

1-807-824-2933

**SUPERIOR SHORELINE INSURANCE LTD.**

825-9492  
825-9646



Gord Moorey

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Up, up and away: Schreiber firefighters scamper up a ladder during the Firefighter Games held at the baseball field in Schreiber on June 25. Teams from Terrace Bay, Marathon, Manitouwadge,

Schreiber, and Murilla participated in the four-event series. The Murilla volunteers won, with Schreiber placing second and the Marathon team claiming third place. A wet time was had by all!

## Vacationers are urged to have a safe holiday

Statistics show more motorists die on Ontario highways in July and August than at any other time of the year. With a holiday weekend (always a time of increased accidents) coming this July 1, Ontario Provincial Police officers are doubly concerned about motorists' safety.

Last year, 144 persons died in traffic accidents across the province during July. Of that number 103 fatalities happened on OPP patrolled roadways as compared to 1986, when 80 people died.

"In a typical week OPP officers issue more than 10,000 Highway Traffic Act charges, but increased enforcement isn't the entire answer. Motorists, not the police, are responsible for safe and courteous driving," said Insp. Bill Wicklund, Traffic and Marine Section.

This is the first year of OPP's enhanced year-round R.I.D.E. stopchecks.

"Motorists should remember that OPP R.I.D.E. units will be operating in cottage country this summer," said Wicklund.

The July 1 holiday weekend also begins the first month of full-

time living at the summer cottage or beach for many urban families. It's a time for swimming and boating and for safety rules.

"The upcoming holiday weekend offers parents an excellent opportunity to review rules about water and boating safety with their youngsters before leaving for cottage country," said Sgt. Larry Smith of the Marine Unit.

According to Smith almost all boating and water-related accidents could be avoided. He recommends parents set a good example for youngsters by making certain they obey water and boating regulations.

"One of the most important examples parents can set is to provide a personal flotation device for every person, including children, who go boating," said Smith.

"Safety on roadways or waterways requires a personal commitment from each of us," said Wicklund. "Make this July 1 holiday weekend memorable because you and your family had a good, safe time and not a holiday marred by tragedy."

## Woodlands strike over

Despite internal grumblings and a slim ratification vote, approximately 700 members of Local 2693 of the IWA-Canada have decided to end their 38-day strike and return to work.

Close to 400 voting members met in the Longlac arena on Sunday, June 19 and accepted the terms of a three-year contract.

A total of 392 votes were cast, according to Bob Timmermans, union representative for Geraldton. When the tally was recorded, 230 voted in favour of acceptance, while 162 voted to reject it. The result is seen as a weak vote of confidence by some.

Dan Puddester, union spokesman in Terrace Bay, doesn't consider that vote a big majority.

"That's almost every other guy (who voted against acceptance)," Puddester told the *News*.

Union and company officials met in Toronto on June 17 to hammer out an agreement which sees a guarantee of no lay-offs for employees on the company's payroll before May 8, 1988.

However, Puddester believes there can be no absolute guarantee.

"There's still going to be layoffs due to mechanization," he said. "They (Kimberly-Clark) can harvest wood with less people by going mechanical."

The contract — retroactive from Sept. 1, 1987 and in effect until Sept. 1990 — will provide respectively increases of 1, 1.5 and 4.5 per cent for each of the three years.

## Hospitality seminar recognizes increased tourism in North

By Greg Huneault  
the News

If the Northshore is to become a tourist haven, tourists must be treated accordingly. This was the main message shared at a two-day seminar held in Terrace Bay last week for area hospitality and retail managers and employees.

Sponsored by various corporate companies in the food and service industry, the program taught staff and management the basics of how to make the hospitality industry from Rossport to Terrace Bay a profitable one.

However, it wasn't a financial talk; the seminar discussed proper methods not only to welcome visitors and tourists, but to ensure that those who have spent money while here will leave with a positive attitude and will want to return.

Ron Christiansen, an associate of Maggie Milne and Associates of Thunder Bay, is hosting the seminar throughout the North. He says the seminar is the result of an "increased sensitivity to tourism."

"The consensus is that this area is a very beautiful part of Ontario. There is a lot of enthusiasm to cultivate tourism," he told the *News*.

Christiansen explained that the heightened awareness of the potential for tourism in the area is the result of many factors.

One factor is the realization that one-industry towns in the north are subject to cycles of boom and bust, and in some cases once the resource has been depleted the town becomes a memory to most.

Another factor of tourism awareness in the north is the fact

that Canadians, and particularly those in the north, are becoming more conscious of 'international travellers,' which is defined as those who want to travel to Canada from other countries to experience our unique landscape and climate.

"Our people go into the desert to experience sand," said Christiansen. "We take it (our resources and landscape) for granted and don't realize what it means to international travelers. We haven't even begun to think of how we can market snow."

Tourism is Ontario's second largest export industry. Last year it accounted for an extra \$8-billion in Ontario's economic pocket. Over 401,000 people work full-time in this expanding industry.

Christiansen said that those who want to succeed might begin by redefining the meaning of 'tourist.'

Although hunting and fishing will probably continue to be the mainstay of tourism in the North, new trends in tourism mean new opportunities.

Events such as flea markets, church bazaars, artisan workshops, and the opportunity to try unique food are attractions which could "pull people off the highway" and allow them to discover other things, according to Christiansen. "There is as much as the imagination will allow. There doesn't have to be mega-projects."

The seminar host said it will take an individual effort on everyone's part. From tourism and food service industry staff to local residents, all must make an effort to make tourists welcome.



Ten local owners and managers of service and hospitality businesses participated during the second day of the Hospitality Training Program. Ron Christiansen (second row, extreme right) says there has been a great deal of "enthusiasm or waking up" about the potential of tourism in the area.

**NOTICE:** Due to the Canada Day Holiday, deadline for advertising is Wednesday, June 29 at 5.00 p.m.

Also, anyone interested in taking photos of Canada Day celebrations for the News is asked to contact Paul at 825-3747. If you have a camera, we will provide the film. Now is the chance for all photographers out there to get their pictures published! Call now!!!