

Editorial Page

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Ineffective by-law should be amended with hunting season beginning locally

An interesting CBC series called 'This is the Law' entertained viewers years ago by depicting actors 'breaking' outdated, ineffective and unusual by-laws in towns and cities throughout Canada.

There is a Terrace Bay by-law currently on the books that would perfectly fit the context of this show. The Terrace Bay by-law states that discharging a firearm within a two-mile radius of the Terrace Bay Post Office is prohibited.

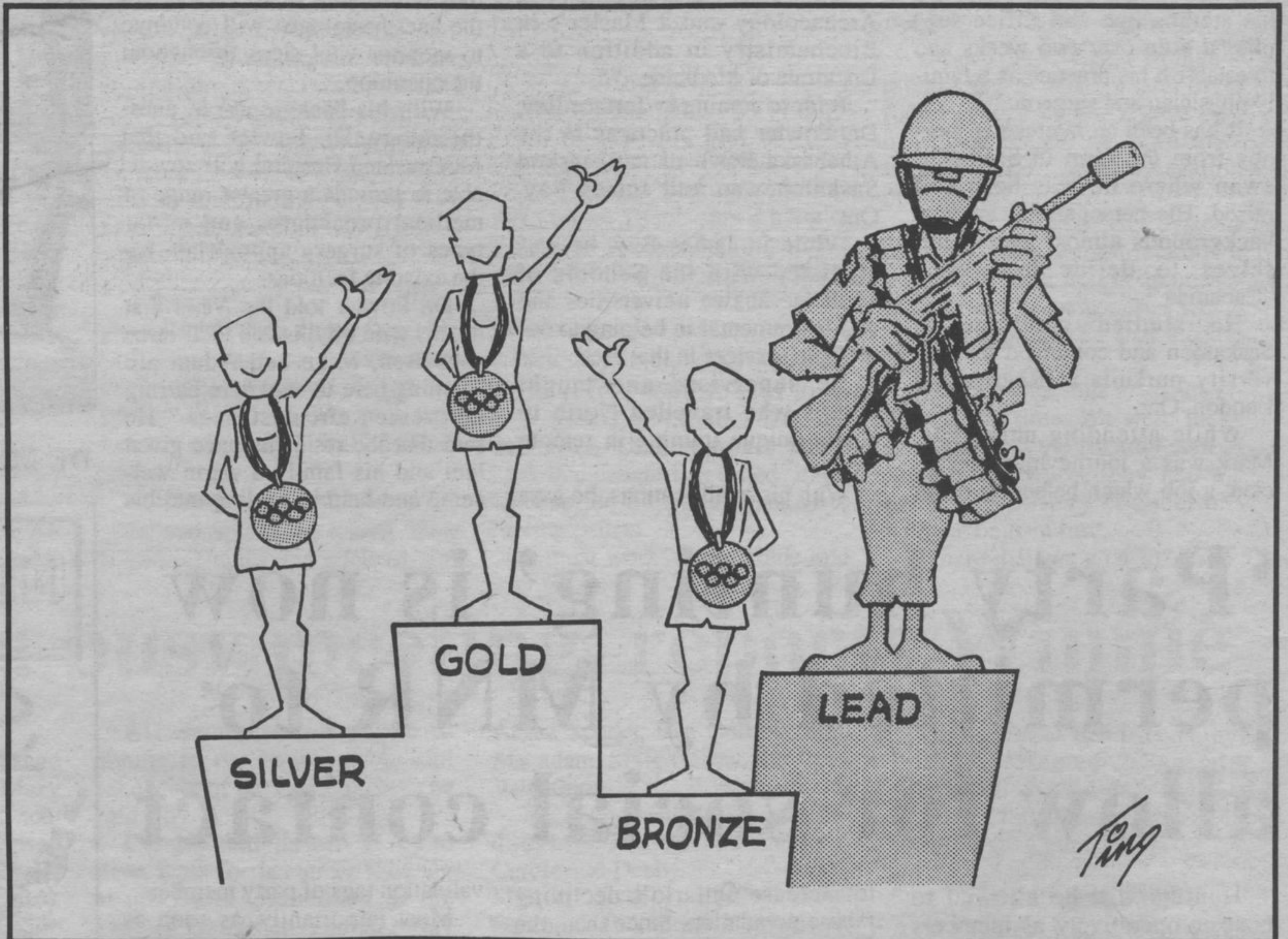
With the exception of the southern boundary established by Lake Superior, determining the two-mile limit in any given direction could pose a few problems.

Essentially, it is impossible to enforce. Hunters have already begun to stalk local side roads and bush in their pursuit of game.

MNR Conservation Officers and local police will be busy enforcing various laws related to hunting. With the current piece of local authorization, one can hardly expect a law officer to carry around a two-mile long piece of string to measure distance.

It is also unfair to hunters. Those who are not aware of the by-law, but who are responsible, could arguably be fined. Although ignorance of the law is not an excuse, those who are responsible would best be served if they had all the information they could use.

Better geographically-defined borders should solve the present ineffectiveness of this by-law and could remove any potential future problems.



By amending it to include recognizable geographic boundaries or other well-defined limits, it will be easier for law officials to enforce and it will be fairer to hunters.

Until Council sees fit to amend the by-law, however, hunters should be advised of the existence of this by-law.

Of course, there are other laws within the Criminal Code that make it an offence to fire a gun under certain circumstances. If there weren't, hunting on the far side of Terrace Heights might have become popular if enforced by the by-law alone.

'Letters to the editor' are very important to the readership and to the community which the newspaper serves.

The letters act as a forum for discussion, a means to inform the public or authorities of a concern, or sometimes they can provide a great topic of conversation over the fence or kitchen table.

They also provide ideas and suggestions for and criticisms about local issues.

They can be funny, angry, sad, or a little of everything. Write one today, sign your name, and help provide a service to all. Write: Box 579, Terrace Bay, Ont. P0T 2W0

Couch Potatoism is sweeping the Globe

Have you ever thought about how much we owe the common potato. Can you imagine a world without potato salad, potato chips, potato latkes or potato pancakes? To say nothing of the entire potpourri of ordinary potato reincarnations--I mean, you can enjoy your tumescent tuber boiled, broiled, baked, chipped, mashed, creamed or roasted in its own nubby skin.

Nossir, you don't have to live in P.F.I. or New Brunswick to doff your cap to this humblest and homliest offering from the garden patch, but all of the aforementioned accomplishments are..well, small potatoes, the spuds great contribution in the field of sociology. I refer to those low-growing, lethargic, but strangely stubborn pockets of vegetation that have blossomed in living rooms, dens and recreation centres across the continent. They can be found growing on chesterfields and davenportes, on Lazyboys and chaises longues. They may occur singly, in pairs or in family clusters of a half a dozen or more. And they don't require much in the

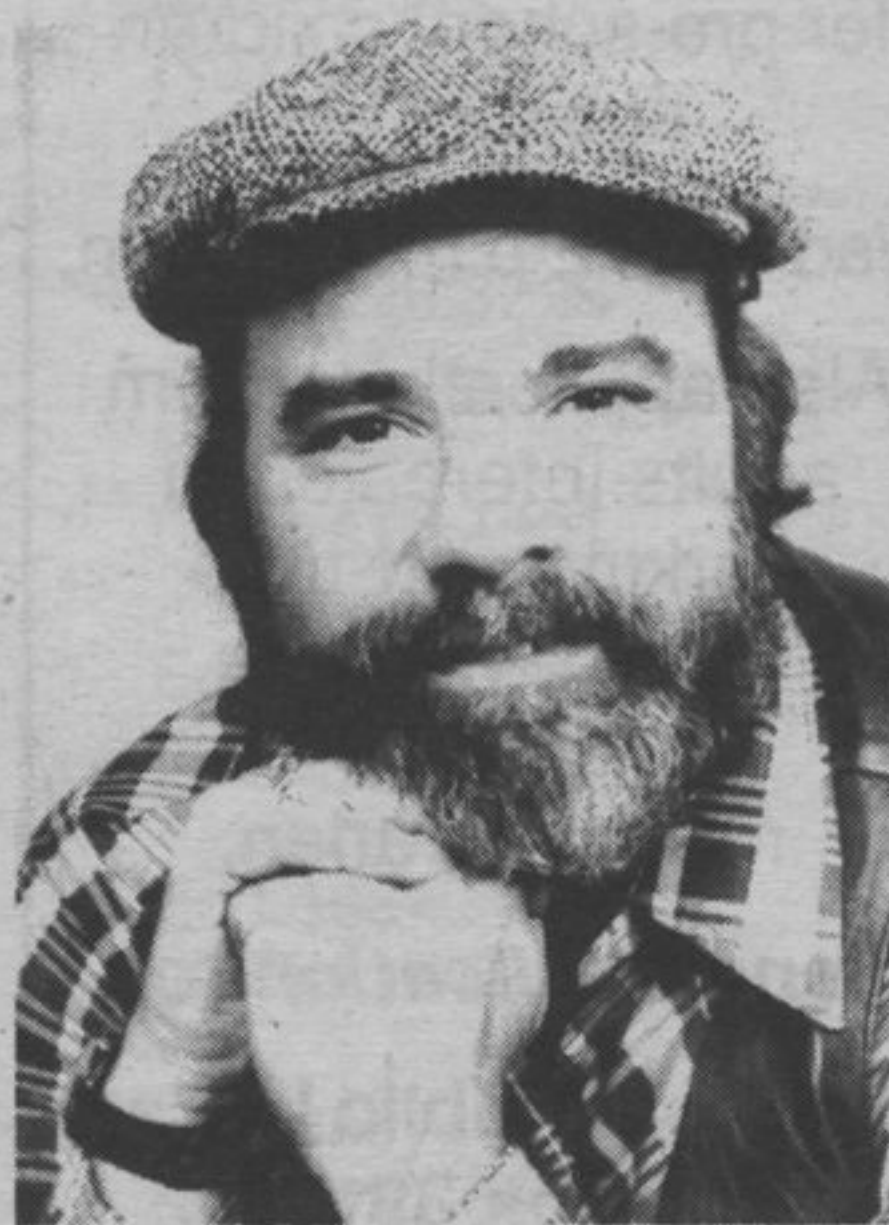
way of nutrition--they thrive on beer and Fritos, but a frugal diet of light reflecting from a glowing TV screen will keep them happy.

I'm talking about Couch Potatoes--those flaccid souls among us who spend increasingly huge chunks of time sitting in front of the boob tube. Couch potatoes have their favourite programs, but they don't insist on them. A true Couch potato will watch anything--test patterns even.

The sacred principle of Couch Potatoism has nothing to do with program discrimination or acquisition of knowledge. The whole crux of the cult is to turn that T.V. on and then not to move. Not To Move except for block fires, Acts of or extremely urgent calls of nature.

Couch Potatoes represent a kind of super mutant strain of the conventional T.V. addict. Old time T.V. fans at least got up and raided the fridge during the really boring commercials. Thanks to satellite dishes, remote control

channel switchers and the video cassette recorder, your modern Couch Potato moves about as frequently as your average fire



Arthur Black

hydrant.

And it's not a joke. Couch Potatoism is becoming a serious competitive, hyper-ambitious

business. Last month, the organizers of the Sonoma County Fair in California paid John Silvieira \$1,000 US to do what he does best: sit in front of a T.V. set eating peanut butter sandwiches and watching Cheers reruns. John Silvieira is a professional Couch Potato and the chief display in Sonoma County's "Great American Couch Potato Pageant".

The CP movement is even more serious in Japan. Allow me to introduce Kiyotaka Yamana. Mister Yamana is a 28 year old Tokyo businessman who hopes to do for Couch Potatoism in Japan what Johnny Appleseed did for orchards in America.

Mister Yamana is chief executive officer of the Couch Potatoes Club of Japan Formation Committee. He works tirelessly to foster and promote the concept of Couch Potatoism in the land of the rising Sun.

Alas, it is not going all that well. A philosophy devoted to pure sloth is destined to be a slow seller among the intensely

Japanese. Despite all of Mister Yamana's efforts to plug the concept, Japan's branch plant Couch Potato experiment has not, as it were, taken root.

Why? Mister Yamana has been smitten by a fad that's why.

Maybe it's the brightness Americans have", he says, "or the affluence...that's the point Japanese people are lacking."

Affluence in America? You could buy an entire town in Tennessee for a month's rent in downtown Tokyo.

Brightness? Americans? The *National Geographic* recently published a poll that shows 15 per cent of Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 could not locate the United States on a world map.

With all due respect Mister Yamana, you might consider signing yourself in at the Outpatients Clinic of Tokyo General, get yourself a medical checkup.

Sounds to me like you're suffering a touch of Potato Blight.