

60th anniversary of logging reunion being hosted by Longlac in summer

Longlac will host "The 60th Anniversary of Logging" of the District, July 13 to July 16, 1989. The Homecoming Committee is trying to contact former residents of the area.

To Former Longlac/Geraldton Area Residents

You are invited to return to Longlac, Ontario and join in the celebration of "60 Years of Logging" during the week of July 13 to 16, 1989.

If you are interested, or want more information, please contact:

Longlac - 60th Anniversary of Logging
Homecoming Committee
Box 479
Longlac, Ontario
P0T 2A0

Smaller UI payments for both employers and employees following federal election

In an election dominated almost exclusively by debate over free trade, it was refreshing to see at least one announcement that really meant something to someone. Without much fanfare or hoopla, the Tories sent out a statement to the press saying that premiums on unemployment insurance would be slashed by 17 per cent and benefits would be raised to a maximum of \$363 a week effective Jan. 1, 1989.

Although the good news on the unemployment insurance front came in the latter stages of the campaign, both employers and employees have something to cheer about after the Nov. 21 election. For employees (who pay proportionately less than employers), the weekly premiums will drop to \$1.95 from \$2.35 per \$100 of insurable earnings while the contributions of employers will drop to \$2.73 from \$3.29 per \$100 of insured earnings. And for unemployed workers, the maximum weekly benefits available under UI will be \$24 above the current maximum of \$339.

Crime Stoppers, by now, is a term most people are familiar with or have at least heard in passing.

The Crime Stopper concept means changing the old idea of not reporting crime as you may get involved in lengthy court cases as a witness and people will know you were the one who reported the illegal activity.

The public can now assist police in solving crime and clearing their conscience by reporting any type of criminal activity to Crime Stoppers. In Thunder Bay call 623-8477 or long distance, no charge call, 1-800-465-6844. The following question and answer should clarify any mysteries you may have.

Should you or your organization wish more information, please contact any Police Force or O.P.P. detachment and we would be more than pleased to assist you.

Crime Stoppers Questions & Answers

Q. What is Crime Stoppers?

A. Crime Stoppers is a non profit program relying on cooperation between the citizens of our district, the news media and our police forces. Crime Stoppers encourages people to call our toll free number with information to solve crimes already committed, those about to occur and/or the whereabouts of wanted persons.

Q. Who operates Crime Stoppers?

A. A group of concerned citizens comprise the Board of Directors. The reward fund is not tax dollars, instead monies solicited from the private sector by board members. It is the local board's duty to administer absolute control over the fund and payments thereof. All monies raised locally will be used locally. Since Crime Stoppers is incorporated as a charitable organization, all donations are tax-exempt.

Q. What kinds of crimes can be reported?

A. Any crime can be reported to Crime Stoppers, ranging from drug tips, thefts, murders, break and enters and any other criminal offences.

Q. How is anonymity guaranteed?

A. When you call our direct line, 1-800-465-6488, you will be assigned a special code number which you will identify yourself with in all future dealings with Crime Stoppers personnel. Your call will not be traced or recorded. You will not be pressured to testify. You never have to give your name. No one will know who you are.

Q. What do I do after I report a crime?

A. You will be asked to call back in three weeks and identify yourself with your special code number. If an arrest has been made, you will receive a reward. Unlike other reward programs which stipulate "Arrest and Conviction", Crime Stoppers pays upon arrest only. Your waiting time for payout is drastically reduced.

Q. What is the range of rewards and who decides how much will be paid for each arrest?

A. The rewards range from \$25 to \$1,000 depending on the nature of the crime. The arresting officer and the Police Community Liaison Officer will suggest an amount of reward after reviewing the case, but the local Board of Directors will have the final say on the amount of

the reward.

Q. How would I collect my reward?

A. Various pick-up spots have been established at businesses throughout the district. You can choose one of these spots that you would feel most comfortable entering. Just give your special code number to the person there and you will receive your reward in cash. You do not have to pick up the reward yourself. Anyone who you give your special code number to can pick up the reward, be it your mother, father, brother, sister, friend or cousin. If you wish, you can also use any of the pick-up spots in any other community at your choice. This is all arranged through the coordinator on the Crime Stoppers hotline, 1-800-465-6844.

Q. Can I call any police station or Zenith 50,000?

A. Yes, by advising the person answering the phone that it is a Crime Stoppers call. Should you be looking for a reward or wanting to know how the investigation has progressed, you will eventually have to call the special toll free line for a code number, and to make pick-up arrangements.

We certainly hope that the above information is helpful in understanding how Crime Stoppers works. If there is some area we haven't covered, please do not hesitate to contact Crime Stoppers through their toll free number or any of the local directors.

Then Minister of Employment and Immigration, Barbara McDougall, also announced that the national unemployment insurance fund will show a surplus of \$422-million at the end of 1988 despite the changes. This marks a massive reduction in the cumulative deficit in the UI account which stood at \$4.5-billion at the end of 1984.

Sound too good to be true? Four years ago the answer would have been "yes". Canadians, however, have grudgingly learned to accept the downside of this enormously expensive—and often abused—social program. John Bulloch, president of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, says the upcoming changes will be particularly well received by the small and medium-sized business community. Entrepreneurs, he says, have traditionally been the hardest hit by this program.

CFIB estimates that for employers, the revamped UI system will translate into an approximately \$100 per year, per employee savings. As a result, each worker earning, for example, \$15,000

per year will save the employer \$112; four workers, \$448 per year; and 10 workers, \$1,120.

Regardless of who or where this announcement came from, all Canadians should be relieved to see some progress at long last being made in this direction. For years now, the costs associated with funding the unemployment insurance system in this country have been exorbitant—most recently to the tune of \$11-billion. Therefore, focusing on the UI deficit makes sense; small business, after all, which shoulders a disproportionate share of the overall payroll tax burden has made it clear that relief is desperately needed. Add to that the reduced payments by employees and the increased benefits for unemployed workers and it seems that Canadians finally had a winner.

It's too bad that one of the very few win-win scenarios in this election was somehow lost in the battle for the hearts and minds of Canadians. But for small business—the main engine of job creation in this country—the UI turnaround came not a minute too soon.

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For more information,

Call Hyacinthe
3556

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Season's Greetings

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The Public Relations Committee of The McCausland Hospital needs your help in

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Your "Christmas Tree Light" will
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Children and Adults may drop into the Hospital Administration Office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday from December 1st, 1988 to December 21st, 1988 and purchase your Christmas Light. On the evening of December 21st, 1988 at 7:00 p.m., come and see us light the tree that your decoration helped build!

ADULTS - \$2.00 PER LIGHT
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The Star will be lit by the highest bidder.