

Nipigon

Snowmobiler was still missing at week's end

by Greg Giddens
Special to The News

A week long search through difficult weather on Lake Nipigon as of Friday, January 11, had failed to find a missing Nipigon man.

Gordon Eric Ziegler, brother of Terrace Bay Township Reeve Jim Ziegler, was last seen on Thursday, Jan. 3, when he left an Elizabeth Lake Camp for a snowmobile trip on Lake Nipigon.

When he failed to return to the camp 24 hours later friends began searching for the 36 year old man. After finding nothing the friends called Nipigon OPP at approximately 8:15 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4.

When there was still no sign of Ziegler the next morning, police launched a search on Lake Nipigon. That afternoon Ziegler's snowmobile was found near the southeast corner of St. Paul Island. There was no sign of Ziegler.

Sargeant Lorne Silver of the Nipigon OPP said police and volunteers have been searching the area but have found little sign of Ziegler.

"They were able to pick up tracks heading north," Silver said.

The footprints were found about one mile from Ziegler's snowmobile and appeared to heading towards Kelvin Island, he added.

An OPP helicopter has been used in the search and to help maintain contact with the snowmobile search party.

Police were continuing the search last week but Silver would not say how long the search would continue.

Homeless allowed to vote in next provincial election

New rules will allow homeless to vote in municipal elections

Municipal Affairs Minister Dave Cooke introduced changes to the Municipal Elections Act recently that will allow homeless people to vote in municipal elections.

"Homeless people have been disenfranchised by the current system," Mr. Cooke said. "The changes I am introducing will provide new ways for people without a fixed address to meet residency requirements."

The legislation will also restrict election contributions and the use of surplus campaign funds. And it will

make it easier for electors to have alleged campaign financing irregularities investigated.

Under the legislation, a candidates surplus campaign funds will be held in trust by the municipal clerk for use during the next municipal election or applied against past election debts.

A \$5,000 limit will be placed on the total amount a contributor can give to all candidates for a single municipality, school board or local board.

A new enforcement system will eliminate the need for individual electors to take legal

action if they believe election campaign financing laws have been broken.

The new system will demand the municipality, school board or local board act on voters' complaints. If the municipality or board fails to take appropriate action, the provincial Commission on Election Finances can intervene.

The legislation includes a number of other amendments allowing municipalities to provide election information in languages other than English and French and providing an alternative form of ballot for visually impaired electors.

Economic development office

Costs outweigh the benefits

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been, over five years, \$44,431 and Terrace Bay's, \$89,625. The remaining \$28,632 was to be covered by the Community Futures Corporation.

The final cost sharing proposal would have increased the residential taxes, per average household, equally in both towns.

Terrace Bay's share of the costs was larger because of its bigger tax base due to Kimberly-Clark Inc.

Mike Cosgrove, reeve of Schreiber Township, said Schreiber Council was disappointed that Terrace Bay "didn't go for it because the

initial request for an economic development office had come from Terrace Bay."

Cosgrove explained that Schreiber cannot apply for the MEDA grant because the ministry requires that municipalities have a population of 5,000.

"That is why Terrace Bay came to us in the first at place," he said.

The two communities had been discussing the possibility of establishing an economic development office for about a year, said Dave Fulton, Terrace Bay clerk-treasurer.

A study committee was set up last spring and a consultant hired.

Fulton said both the committee and the consultant's

report recommended the townships create an economic development office and hire an economic development officer.

The consultant's report suggested several goals for an economic development office in the area including:

strengthening and diversifying the economic base of both municipalities in order to decrease dependence on existing large industry; strengthening the existing business community in both Schreiber and Terrace Bay; attracting jobs, investment and government funds to the area and addressing the out-migration of youth and work towards the provision of more local opportunities.

Post Office at risk

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space from the new owner, dependent on rental costs.

However, Hallgrimson pointed out in the letter, if continued leasing of the space cannot be arranged operational change, including the opening of a retail postal outlet, would be required.

Terrace Bay Township

Council feels that the closure of the Post Office is a distinct possibility, said Dave Fulton, township clerk treasurer, and has drafted a petition calling upon parliament to stop the proposed sale of the Government of Canada Building in Terrace Bay.

The petition is available at the Municipal Office.

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Race Relations Thunder Bay seeking information

Race Relations Thunder is seeking to document stories of people in Northwestern Ontario who have experienced racial discrimination in any form.

CBQ radio is assisting them in gathering this information. Eugene Lefrancois of CBQ is accepting calls at 625 - 5010 during the month of January.

The station is requesting that anybody with a story, or anyone who is interested to call. People could even assist someone else to make the call. Collect calls will be accepted.

Translation services in Ojibway or other languages can be provided. Further information can be obtained by calling Race Relations Thunder Bay at 344-0055.

Thank You

We would like to thank Billie and Bob Bagdon for their generous bonus and the lovely Christmas party they had for us in their home on December 21st. We wish them, their boys, Tom and Shirley a Happy Holiday season and a Prosperous 1991.

Your staff from the A & W