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## First baby of the new year

Tuesday January 21, 1992



Schreiber/Terrace Bay's new years baby arrived Friday, Jan. 10 at 7:01 pm. Melanie Jessica Wagar, shown in mid yawn, weighed 8 lbs. and 4 oz. at birth. For Karen and Tom Wagar, who live in Terrace Bay, Melanie Jessica is their second child.

### Meeting with cabinet is "democracy at its best"

by Darren MacDonald The News

cents incl. G.S.T.

Terrace Bay Councillor Bill Houston will be travelling to Toronto this March to take part in "democracy at its best."

Houston will be part of the Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) delegation, which will make its annual presentation to the full provincial cabinet March 25.

"The cabinet doesn't meet with all the municipal groups in the province, so I think we're privileged to have this opportunity," Houston says.

"It's quite impressive, the way in which they listen to the concerns of little municipalities across Northwestern Ontario."

NOMA is made up of three municipal groups groups from Northwestern Ontario. The three get together each May to pass resolutions on common concerns.

"It's a side of municipal politics that takes you beyond community, your own although each of the resolutions start at the grassroots level, in one of the municipalities," Houston says.

The meetings with the provincial cabinet began about 15 years ago, and Houston says that over the years, all three parties have been good at listening to the NOMA presentation.

"Everybody that goes to these things comes away impressed by the experience," he says. "It's democracy at its best, in a way."

Last year Houston made a presentation on taxation, and this year he will represent NOMA's views on the environment.

"There's been some provincial initiatives on the environment that have been praiseworthy," he says.

"But there's always a concern that the province doesn't offload the costs of everything on the shoulders of the local ratepayers."

He would also like to see the province adopt clear and consistent guidelines on how to deal with things like landfill sites, recycling programs and waste oil.

"Management of waste oil from service stations is some

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### Lots of interest in job to remove boating "hazard"

by Darren MacDonald The News

A request for tenders has gone out for the job of removing the rock shoal at the mouth of the Aguasabon River.

Terrace Bay will be accepting bids until Jan. 27 for the job of creating an eight foot deep and 50 foot wide channel at the river's mouth.

"To be a safe harbour, it's got to be 30 metres wide and

right now it's only half that," said Township engineer Ray Mikkonen.

A consultant's study recommended that the shoal only be removed if the area was to be used as a safe harbour.

"The reason we did the study was to determine if removing the shoal would have any ill effect," Mikkonen said.

"But the report said go ahead and take the shoal out, it's not going to cause anything bad to happen."

Right now, Mikkonen said the shoal is a hazard to boaters.

"A lot of people hit their propellors on it, and break their boat," he said.

"A lot of the locals know how to come out because they go in and out all the time. But sometimes it's pretty foggy, or pretty rough. So we're removing a hazard basically."

There has been a tremendous amount of interest shown in bidding on the job, Mikkonen.

"There's a lot of hungry people out there, lot of people interested in bidding" he said.

"But once they see the specs, they might back off and not make a bid."

Mikkonen said he's asking specific questions to make sure that the bidders are qualified to

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