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The Terrace Bay-Schreiber News

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TERRACE BAY - SCHREIBER - ROSSPORT AND JACKFISH LAKE

Pouliot receives key to Terrace Bay



Terrace Bay Reeve Jim Ziegler (right) hands Transportation Minister Gilles Pouliot the key to the Township last Friday. Pouliot, who said this was the first time he had received such an honour, was given the key to show the town's appreciation for his assistance in the re-opening of Ridgewood Drive.

Shoal contract goes to Cullmar

Cullmar Construction of Terrace Bay has outbid five other firms for the contract to remove the rock shoal at the mouth of the Aguasabon River.

The bids were opened in Terrace Bay Council Chambers Jan. 27.

Out of 22 firms that expressed interest in the contract, only six actually submitted bids, and only Cullmar—at \$92,880—came in under \$100,000.

The most expensive bid was \$226,840, submitted by Pierre Gagne Construction, which operates out of Thunder Bay.

Cullmar's was more than \$70,000 lower than any other bid. It was immediately accepted by Council, provided it also received approval from Township Engineer Ray Mikkonen, which it has since received.

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New OPP emergency line for Schreiber starting Feb. 10

by Darren MacDonald
The News

Beginning Feb. 10, people in Schreiber who need the assistance of a police officer will call a toll free number, which will link them directly with a dispatcher in Thunder Bay.

The message will then be relayed back to a Schreiber Police Constable, via the new telecommunications towers erected for the new system.

Sgt. Andy Templar of the Schreiber Detachment of the OPP says the new system will not only improve communications, it will also make it safer for constables to do their jobs.

"They'll wear microphones on their lapels, which are attached to radios," Templar says.

So even when the officers leave their cars, they'll still be in contact with the dispatcher.

"There won't be nearly as many areas when they're out of radio contact," he says.

The district has been mapped out in detail, and the dispatchers can make use of the 17 communications towers that have been built.

"People don't have to worry about the calls going to Thunder Bay," Templar says. "They have maps of the area on microfiche."

Another feature of the new system is that it scrambles messages, making it harder for outsiders to intercept OPP communications.

"We've had other forces ask us about duplicating our system," he says.

Unlike many other detachments, the changes in Schreiber will not lead to any layoffs.

"Sharon (the dispatcher in Schreiber) will remain," Templar says. "She's more of a stenographer than a dispatcher anyway."

Constables have had a couple days of training with the new system, and Templar says

the transition to the new system should be fairly painless.

"And it's a great improvement in terms of safety," he says.

The new toll free number will be announced during a media luncheon Feb. 5 in Thunder Bay.

The luncheon, which is hosted by the OPP Telecommunication Project and the Thunder Bay District Communication Unit staff, will include a demonstration of how the system works.

The Telecommunications Network is expected to be fully operational by Feb. 14.

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