



Laughter on menu
at Dinner Theatre
– Page 3



Kodiaks honoured for
being good sports
– Page 4

the Reminder

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

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Lock your car door: RCMP



Staff Sgt. Foster

Jonathon Naylor
Editor

Flin Flon RCMP are cautioning drivers after a recent string of cash thefts from unlocked vehicles.

Police say several vehicles in the Green and Whitney street areas were targeted the evening of Sunday, Feb. 12 and early the following morning, Feb. 13.

“My advice to the public is, lock your vehicle,” said Staff Sgt. Wayne Foster.

He said money was the only item reported stolen, and only those vehicles that were unlocked were hit by the unidentified thieves.

Asked whether the Mounties had any suspects, Foster said that as of mid-last week the matter was still under investigation.

He encouraged anyone who saw suspicious activity on the dates in question, or with information on any other unsolved crime, to contact the RCMP detachment at 687-1423 or Manitoba Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Callers to Crime Stoppers remain anonymous. Information leading to a conviction makes tipsters eligible for a cash reward.

Teens join equality fight



MANITOBA COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PHOTO

Flin Flon’s Jayde Clendenning (front, far right) and Callum Spencer (behind Clendenning in light cap) helped produce a song and video to promote female equality. They are pictured with the production’s other participants from across Manitoba.

Jonathon Naylor
Editor

A pair of Hapnot Collegiate students have used their musical talents to join the global fight for female equality.

Callum Spencer and Jayde Clendenning were chosen to help produce a song and video for the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC).

“I really want it to just get watched a lot,” says Spencer, a Grade 11 student. “That’d be kind of cool. It’d be kind of neat to see it hit a pretty high number (of online views).”

Unbreakable, a song about the importance of the empowerment of women and girls, was written and performed by eight high school students from across the province.

Its accompanying three-minute video was also produced by the

“Women are almost doing more work than men and men are still making way more money. Way more. Not fair at all.”

– Callum Spencer, Hapnot student

teens, hitting YouTube on Feb. 6 and the Manitoba legislature shortly thereafter.

Spencer and Clendenning applied to become part of the production after learning about it from their band teacher, Anna Jardine.

Both were immediately drawn to the cause.

“People think it’s a man’s world when it’s not,” says Clendenning, a Grade 9 student. “Women have equal

rights and freedoms and we don’t deserve to be treated as property. We’re just as able as men.”

Hurdles

Clendenning says that while inequality between the sexes is more of a problem in overseas countries like Afghanistan, there remain hurdles for women in Canada.

She gave the nation’s political system as an example, pointing out that it is still dominated by men.

For his part, Spencer says he “definitely” sees inequality for women as an issue in Canada. In school he has learned how women’s salaries remain lower than those of men.

“And the percentage is way out of whack,” he says. “Women are almost doing more work than men and men are still making way more money. Way more. Not fair at all.”

MCIC selected Spencer, Clendenning

and six other teens out of a pool of 20 applicants.

In December, the eight teens gathered in Winnipeg, where they took in presentations on the plight of women. In January, they returned to the capital city to record the song and video.

Two days after its YouTube launch, *Unbreakable* was played by Premier Greg Selinger at the Manitoba Legislature. It was also heard on CBC Radio.

See ‘I...’ on pg. 6

'I just thought it'd be kind of a fun thing to do'

Continued from pg. 1

The instrumental work of both Spencer, who plays drums and guitar, and Clendenning, who plays saxophone and bass, are heard.

Spencer also has a vocal solo, while Clendenning sang as part of the group.

"I'm really into music, so I just thought it'd be kind of a fun thing to do,"

says Spencer. "The fact that it was for a good cause, that was pretty interesting as well."

As of last week the video was approaching 1,900 views on YouTube, a number that pleases Sumeep Bath, spokesperson for MCIC.

"We've had nothing but positive feedback," says Bath from his Winnipeg office.

Bath notes the video was created to help commemorate International Development Week, held Feb. 5-11.

He calls it "a fun way to get people involved in the issues."

'Empowerment'

"The kids themselves...were really quite invested in the theme of the empowerment of women and girls," adds Bath.

For Clendenning, the video may be a prelude of things to come. After

high school, she plans to attend university and pursue a career in music, such as a band teacher or a composer.

Spencer is less sure what he will do after graduation, but expects he will enroll in some

sort of post-secondary institute.

No matter their futures, both teens can always take pride in the fact that when a vital global concern reared its head, they helped answer the call.

"The kids themselves...were really quite invested in the theme of the empowerment of women and girls."

– Sumeep Bath, MCIC spokesperson

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am quite concerned with the amount of speculation that has been ongoing since the title of my Private Member's Bill has been made public.

There have been numerous false statements and accusations in the media. I am writing today to set the record straight.

Explicitly concerning the content of my Private Member's Bill, it would be a breach of my Parliamentary privilege to divulge the contents of the Bill before my colleagues and the Members of the House of Commons get a chance to hear and speak on it first.

The Standing Orders of the House provide that the introduction of a Private Member's Bill must be preceded by 48 hours' notice. After the 48 hours, it is placed on the Order Paper.

Until the Order Paper has been submitted to the House, the contents of the bill are confidential. Moreover, the title of the Bill is the only part of it that has been made publicly available.

Any speculation regarding the contents of it is hearsay and has no truthful facets.

I have consulted with numerous chiefs and First Nations citizens, and a common thread throughout those meetings is how much of a barrier that the Indian Act places on individuals. I know this as well as anybody as I am a product of that barrier as a First Nation citizen from Muskeg Lake, Saskatchewan.

Please rest assured that there will be extensive consultations with First Nations chiefs and citizens. I am glad that the title of the Bill is raising debate, as much is needed in regards to the outdated

Indian Act. This bill will allow open lines of dialogue between First Nations, Métis and government on all levels.

The privilege that I have as a Member of Parliament I hold with great esteem, and I am unwilling to jeopardize my professional relationship with my colleagues here in Ottawa and the Parliamentary Privilege with the House of Commons.

Rob Clarke
Member of Parliament
*Desnethé-Missinippi-
Churchill River*

(Editor's note: Media reports have said Clarke has drafted a bill to repeal the Indian Act. In response, he told News Talk 650 CKOM: "The one thing I want to make very clear is that there will be a point where there will be consultations.")

City among busiest Culture Days sites

Jonathon Naylor
Editor

Those involved in Flin Flon's vibrant arts and culture scene are basking in the glow of national recognition.

Of all the Culture Days celebrations held across Canada last year, Flin Flon and area organized the eighth-highest volume of registered activities.

"I have to say I was surprised because there were so many communities across Canada that were participating," said Crystal Kolt, cultural coordinator of the Flin Flon Arts Council, which organized the local events.

A new report from the national officials behind Canada's Culture Days events singled out the busiest of the 365 communities that took part



Ron Burwash (front) and Mark Kolt perform at the Flin Flon area's 2011 Culture Days.

last year.

Toronto, Winnipeg and Ottawa finished first, second and third respectively. The Ontario cities of Mississauga and London were fourth and fifth.

Vancouver came in sixth place, with Stratford, Ont., seventh and Flin Flon eighth. Rounding out the top 10 were Richmond, B.C., and Barrie, Ont.

Flin Flon and area, with an overall population of 7,759 (excluding the lake areas), was by far the smallest community in the top 10.

See 'It's...' on pg. 10



INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON MLA PAY

An independent commissioner of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly has been appointed to make decisions about the appropriate salary, allowances and retirement benefits for all MLAs.

The commissioner, Michael Werier, would like to hear from you before March 31, 2012.

Your submission may be sent to:

Public Input for Independent Commissioner
1035 – 405 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3L6

E-mail: commissioner@legassembly.mb.ca

Current MLA pay, allowances and retirement benefit information can be found at www.reviewcommissioner.mb.ca

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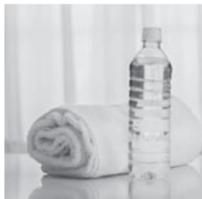
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Please note that Dr. Gordon has been returning to The Pas every 3-4 months to follow up and modify patients on their Health Programs.