

right to the point

**Hatchery group to meet with provincial representatives**

GORE BAY—Members of local fish and game clubs will be meeting with provincial officials later this month to discuss the possibility of funding and other support needed to keep the Gore Bay Fish Hatchery in operation.

"We have a meeting set up in Sudbury with representatives of the United Fish and Game Clubs of Manitoulin and the Gore Bay Fish and Game Club, with representatives of the Lake Huron Fisheries Management Unit, and Ministry of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Division, out of Peterborough," said Jim Sloss, chair of the UFGCM, when contacted by the Recorder on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Peter Stoffer, MP for Sackville-Eastern Shore (Nova Scotia), told the Recorder last week, "We're formulating a letter to be sent to the minister of natural resources concerning help being provided for the Gore Bay Fish Hatchery. We've haven't been able to meet with the MNR critic thus far, but with Carol Hughes (MP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing) we are trying to schedule a meeting with the minister and hopefully convince the Department of Fisheries and Oceans standing committee to look at the issue. Once the ministry gives its opinion on the letter that is going to be sent, it will give us an indication if there is the opportunity for the local fish and game club reps to meet with the standing committee. There is no guarantee these meetings will take place, but hopefully they will, and the information can be brought forward to help the hatchery and expand the Gore Bay and Manitoulin fisheries."

Mr. Stoffer had met with local fish and game club representatives, Ms. Hughes, and Gore Bay Mayor Joyce Foster at a meeting earlier this winter to discuss the need for financial support for the continued operations of the Gore Bay Fish Hatchery.

"I thought the group had very valid concerns regarding the continued operations of the fish hatchery, especially with the thoughts that it has such a benefit in regards to economic development in the community and area," said Mr. Stoffer. "And I was very impressed with the co-operation and coordination the group has had with other groups on the Island."

**Volunteers carry out fish habitat protection project**

Tom Sasvari  
The Recorder

WEST MANITOULIN—Members of the United Fish and Game Clubs of Manitoulin (UFGCM) and the Gore Bay Fish and Game (GBFGC) clubs have completed work that is designed to protect fish from predators in the Kagawong and Smith's Bay areas, but also provide food sources for different species in the North Channel.

On Tuesday of last week, "we had about 12 representatives of the GBFGC and UFGCM creating fish habitat in Smith's Bay in the North Channel and Brandow's Point in Lake Kagawong," said Ian Anderson. "The fish habitat protection brush piles provide protection for yellow perch, although minnows and other small fish and aquatic life will be able to



A total of 24 weighted-down brush piles at Brandow's Point, and another 20 at Smith's Bay, were placed on the ice at the two locations as part of the fish habitat project completed by members of the Gore Bay and United Fish and Game Clubs.

take advantage of the brush piles under water as well."

Mr. Anderson explained

that on the ice at Smith's Bay a total of 20 brush piles weighted down were con-

structed, with another 24 brush piles at Brandow's Point. They will sink before

the ice moves.

"When we placed the brush pile structures on the ice, we also had hand help GPS, which we used to pinpoint the location the structures are located, so when we return when the ice is gone and the water is open, we will be able to then investigate what species are using the structures. And we will be adding some cages this summer on top of the brush piles, using boats."

Mr. Anderson said, "The clubs would like to acknowledge the support we received from Jim Wright, as almost all the trees for this project came from his property. It is certainly a great thing to be able to get the trees we need from this one location."

He pointed out, "We took close to 300 various-sized trees, mostly cedar and about four to six feet in

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Manitoulin Streams representatives Ted Williamson, Seija Deshchenes, Bob Florean and Marcus Mohr proudly collect the Mary Pickford Trophy from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) at the organization's annual conference on the weekend in Mississauga. The award recognizes outstanding achievement among the member clubs of the OFAH.

**Manitoulin Streams nets OFAH award**

Tom Sasvari  
The Recorder

MANITOULIN—The Manitoulin Streams organization has won a prestigious award from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH).

"We received the Mary Pickford Trophy at the 82nd annual OFAH conference this past weekend," said Seija Deschenes, program coordinator of Manitoulin Streams on Monday. "This is a top conservation award given out by the OFAH, and Ms. Pickford had initiated the award. This is a very prestigious award and we are very humbled to receive this recognition."

The Mary Pickford Trophy is awarded annually to an OFAH Club that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to conservation during the course of the year. The award was first handed out in 1940, and is named after the late screen

actress, who was an avid angler.

Manitoulin Streams was recognized for the award as it is on the leading edge for aquatic rehabilitation. The group's work is recognized in Canada and the US as a model for this type of rehabilitation work. It sets the stage for other initiatives that will help to improve the Great Lakes, restore fisheries and protect our water

quality, said Rob Hare, OFAH president, in presenting the award.

These other initiatives include the Eastern Georgian Bay and North Channel Re-vitalization Initiative, which proposes to use Manitoulin Streams as a model. These efforts will not only improve the area's aquatic environment

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**Gore Bay Bruins seek support for Stanley Cup visit**

Tom Sasvari  
The Recorder

GORE BAY—The Gore Bay Bruins Novice Hockey team would like a visit from Mark Messier—with the Stanley Cup!

"I submitted my son Alex's (goalie) novice team for this, but I wrote in my submission this would be for all the Gore Bay teams," said Shane Ingram, of his

entrin the Team Up and Bring Home The Cup contest. "It started off by pointing out as parents we love to see our kids work so hard and enjoy the game of hockey. Yes, some days are long, and it is a long way to drive to the other end of the Island for a game in the winter, but we are really happy to see all our kids play."

All Canadian hockey fans

have dreamt about lifting the Stanley Cup over their heads. Eleven hockey teams in Northern Ontario have entered the contest, which awards one lucky amateur hockey team the opportunity to win the ultimate hockey prize, a chance to hang out with the hockey legend Mark Messier and the NHL Stanley Cup.

"All the teams have demonstrated passion,

teamwork and love for the game, but they need Canada's vote in order to win," says hockey legend Mark Messier in a press release. "I've been to the Ottawa Valley, Summerside, PEI and St-Lazare, Quebec, and I can't wait to see where I'm going next with the Stanley Cup."

The winning team will be determined by the number

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**Community policing group supports Hwy. 6 bike lanes**

Tom Sasvari  
The Recorder

MINDEMOYA—The Manitoulin Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) has added its name to those in support of creating bike lanes on Highway 6 as part of work the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is already going to carry out on the highway.

Maja Mielonen of Mindemoya earlier launched a letter writing campaign to garner support for 100-centimetre-wide highway shoulders, which has received support from many local residents, the Sudbury and District Health Unit, and Assignack Council, among others. The MTO has indicated that it has no plans to create wider shoulders to provide greater safety for cyclists and other highway users.

Carol Ferguson, secretary of CPAC, said the policing group has "agreed to send a letter of support to Assignack council on their request to the MTO on this initiative. CPAC agreed to support the bike trail initiative, and will also be sending a letter to the MTO."

The CPAC committee passed a motion to send the letter calling for the cycling pathways. It is pointed out in the motion that the MTO has committed to repairing Highway 6 from South Baymouth to Ten Mile Point and the repairs will involve resurfacing of the highway.

The provincial government's Places to Grow Act acknowledges the need for improved transportation infrastructure in the North, the CPAC motion notes, including increased use of environmentally responsible transportation options such as bicycles.

It is further pointed out in the CPAC motion that "traffic safety is the number-one priority for the Ontario Provincial Police," and "clear evidence exists that the creation of bicycle lanes on major roadways can enhance traffic safety by keeping bicycles and motor vehicles separated."

"Be it therefore resolved that the Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) on Manitoulin Island endorses the concept of creating bike lanes on Highway 6 as part of the aforementioned resurfacing project, and requests that

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