

Business News Around The Valley

Correction

In our last issue of Ottawa Valley Business, we made an error with regards to the ages for the Summer Company program. The age that qualifies a student is 15 to 29 and not 15 to 20 as previously printed.

Thanks to Enterprise Renfrew County for bringing this to our attention.

New Website

The Town of Arnprior will be launching its new website on January 28. Lindsay Wilson will do the formal unveiling at a breakfast hosted by the Greater Arnprior Chamber of Commerce. The website address is: www.arnprior.ca

Bryson Theatre Lost

A fire has destroyed the Bryson Theatre, a historical landmark in Bryson, Quebec. The fire occurred on January 10.

Claim Your Road

Residents and organizations in Laurentian Valley will soon be able to adopt a road as council officially decided to join the program. Councillor Allan Wren brought forward the program where individuals from a group would clean the roadside a few times each year in exchange for recognition on a sign.

Renfrew Confident in Funding

The Town of Renfrew is looking to do something about the condition of Highway 132. The municipality feels confident about having 90% of the \$2.5 million project funded. Emergency responders have indicated that the condition of the road is negatively impacting their response times.

Landfill Expansion

The Township of Admaston Bromley has added 35 years to the life of its landfill after purchasing an additional 30 acres to expand the facility.

Active Transportation Gets \$190K From County

The County of Renfrew has committed to providing \$190,000 in its budget to active transportation initiatives within its boundaries.

Moe's Sustains Fire Damage

Moe's Pita and Pizzeria in

Arnprior is closed for business after a recent explosion. The Ontario Fire Marshall's office has taken charge of the investigation. The restaurant owner, Moe Fakih, was treated for burns at the Arnprior hospital.

OMB Hearing For Miller Quarry

January 29 is the date that the prehearing conference for the Ontario Municipal Board's matter of the Miller Group's quarry will take place. The prehearing is open to the public and will begin at 10:00am at the Township of McNab Braeside's municipal office. There are five appeals to be addressed: two by the Miller Group, one by a resident's association (FACT-MB) and two appeals of the bylaw by other residents.

Chamber Revamps Gala

The Arnprior Chamber of Commerce has made some changes to its annual awards ceremony. This year's gala will be the 10th anniversary, and will

appropriately be held on April 10, 2014. There will be no awards for large or small business of the year, but rather an award for the business or business person of the year. There will also be new categories of young entrepreneur or young community involvement, innovation, skilled trades and new business awards. More information is available at: www.gacc.ca

Upcoming Procurement

The Renfrew County District School Board has announced that it will be issuing tenders in the "near future" for goods and services connected to the new Valour School in Petawawa. A sample of goods and services to be tendered include: bleachers, window coverings, appliances and interior signage and wayfinding. Interested businesses are asked to register at bids.rcdsb.on.ca.

Continued on Page 5



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It's A Fact

What Canadians Are Purchasing Online

79%

The number of Canadian Internet users who have made a purchase online in the last year.

\$899

The average amount Canadians spent on online purchases in the past year (2013).

\$639

The average amount Canadians spent on online purchases in 2012.

\$1,080

The average amount spent by Canadian men online.

\$725

The average amount spent by Canadian women online.

27%

Percentage of people who reported having purchased computer software to be shipped or mailed online.

60%

Percentage of purchases that are books - the most common items purchased among online Canadians.

56%

Percentage of purchases that is travel - the most common items purchased among online Canadians.

52%

Percentage of purchases that is clothing - the most common items purchased among online Canadians.

45%

Percentage of purchases that is computer software - the most common items purchased among online Canadians.

Source: Ipsos Reid

Business News Around The Valley

CIP For Renfrew

The Town of Renfrew is looking to put together a Community Improvement Plan. A request for proposal will be distributed to six consulting firms. The plan will cost between \$20,000 and \$40,000 and the municipality will seek a grant from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to cover a portion.

New Postal Office in Renfrew
Aikenheads Drug Store in Renfrew is now offering postal services. The drug store will offer the same services as a stand-alone post office, in addition to some extended hours.

AFT Awarded Tender

Arnprior Fire Trucks has been awarded the contract for the manufacture of another purpose built fire apparatus. The Town of Perth awarded the tender of a Spartan MFD Fire Pumper to the Arnprior company.

Hospital Numbers

The Deep River & District Hospital recently released some 2012-13 access numbers. In the 2012-13 year, there were 257 admissions and 16,312 emergency room visits. Of the emergency room visits, 9,136 were one-time visits and 7,176 were repeat visits.

Fuel Contract Awarded

The Township of Montague has entered into a contract with W.O. Stinson & Son Ltd. for the supply of fuel oil at \$0.018 over the daily posted rack price and the supply of the necessary tanks and pumps for a four-year term.

Hydro One Donation

Hydro One's PowerPlay Grant has been presented to the Town of Perth for the Splash Pad in the amount of \$10,000.

Fire Chief Retires

The Town of Mississippi Mills will be recruiting for a new fire chief. Art Brown has sent notice of his resignation for January 27,

2014. Brown is retiring from the position after a 45 year career with the municipality.

County Budget Approved

The County of Renfrew has set their budget for the year with a 2.26% increase to ratepayers. Some of the highlights of this years' budget include a total levy of \$37,406,801, an increase of \$1,354,548 over the 2013 levy. A recommendation for the 2014 budget to be officially adopted will be made on January 29 at the regular meeting of council.

KHR Up For Water Awards

The Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards has been nominated for two awards. The first is the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship Award for outstanding achievements, innovative practice and leadership in the area of water stewardship. The second is the Ontario Water Works Association's award for Excellence in Water Efficiency.

Chamber Winners

The winners of the annual Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce awards include: Joel Schroeder (Young Entrepreneur), Holiday Inn Express (New Business), Valley Property Shop (Small Business), Integrated Health Centre (Medium Business), Deep River & District Hospital (Large Business), Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation (Community Organization), Mapleside Sugar Bush (Farm Enterprise), Butler Chev GMC Buick Cadillac (Skilled Trades), Larrie Thomson (Citizen), Brian McInall (Chamber Member) and Eileen Malette (Lifetime Achievement.)

Stillman To Retire

Mitch Stillman, the Town of Petawawa's Chief Administrative Officer, has decided that 35 years of public service is enough. Stillman announced his retirement on January 27th. He has worked with the Town of Petawawa for nine years as CAO and previously as the Deputy CAO/Clerk.

Employees are valuable as part of our community and our organization and we want to help them stay healthy. As a smaller organization, it's nice to be able to offer that kind of service.

- Peter Emon, Mayor
Township of Greater Madawaska
Workplace member of Valley EFAP



Our Employees Matter.

Building a mentally healthy workplace is important to retaining and attracting employees. Valley Employee and Family Assistance Program (Valley EFAP) can be a key part of achieving a healthy workplace. We provide mental health support to employees and their families on an unlimited basis. Being able to resolve issues that may impact work productivity helps everyone. Valley EFAP is located here in the community, and that becomes important when someone reaches out for help.

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Comment

RCATS

The County of Renfrew decided to support the Active Transportation concept with \$190,000 for this year. What it will be used for has yet to be decided, but things like paved road shoulders seem to be at the forefront of discussions.

According to Renfrew County's Active Transportation Strategy (RCATS), active transportation is any human powered mode of transportation for commuter or recreational purposes. The 12-page document notes how active transportation will improve health, increase tourism and be a driver to economic growth. Wow!

RCATS will decrease pressure on the health care system as people will be encouraged to be more active. The same could be said for every yoga class or golf course or any of the zillion things that encourages health.

RCATS also says that active transportation will help develop a stronger economy. The County must feel strongly about the economic benefit as they are prepared to spend \$400,000 each year to pave 10km of roadside, but turned down \$5,000 to help maintain an airport.

From a liability point of view, the County's legal firm pointed out some risks, but they were all manageable.

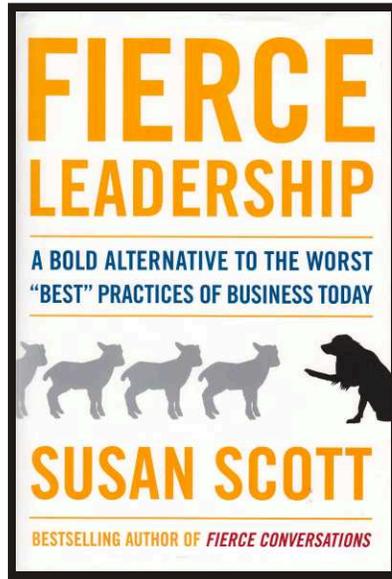
The active transportation group deserves the win and they should be congratulated for it. Sometimes the simplest ideas are the best: pave 10km of roadside every year and you will have healthier people, increased tourism and a stronger economy. Investment: \$400,000 per year. Return: priceless. If every idea had this much promise, imagine the community we could have.

By: Jennifer Layman
jenn@ovbusiness.com

The comment section is open for submissions. Topics must be connected to business. 250 words.

Book Club: Fierce Leadership

A bold alternative to the worst best practices of business



From the Publisher

From the author of the acclaimed book Fierce Conversations comes the antidote to some of the most wrongheaded practices of business today.

- "Provide anonymous feedback."

- "Hire smart people."

- "Hold people accountable."

These are all sound, business practices, right? Not so fast, says leadership visionary and bestselling author Susan Scott. In fact, these mantras - despite being long-accepted and adopted by business leaders everywhere - are completely wrongheaded. Worse, they are costing companies billions of dollars, driving away valuable employees and profitable customers, limiting performance, and stalling careers. Yet they are so deeply ingrained in organizational cultures that no one has questioned them. Until now.

In Fierce Leadership, Scott teaches us how to spot the worst "best" practices in our organizations using a technique she calls "squid eye"-the ability to see the "tells" or signs that we have fallen prey to disastrous behaviors by knowing what to look for. Only then, she says, can we apply the antidote..

Informed by over a decade of conversations with Fortune 500 executives, this book is that antidote. With fierce new approaches to everything from employee feedback to corporate diversity to customer relations, Scott offers fresh and surprising alternatives to six of the so-called "best" practices permeating today's businesses. This refreshingly candid book is a must-read for any manager or leader at any level who is ready to take a long hard look at what trouble might be lurking in their organization - and do something about it.

About the Author

Susan Scott is the founder of Fierce, Inc., a global training company whose clients include Yahoo, Starbucks, Cisco, BP, General Dynamics, Nestle, Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts, Lego, Best Buy, Coca-Cola, Ernst & Young. Scott is the author of Fierce Conversations: Achieving Success at Work & in Life - One Conversation at a Time.



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Wisdom

If you have always done it that way, it is probably wrong.

- Charles Kettering

A brand for a company is like a reputation for a person. You earn reputation by trying to do hard things well.

- Jeff Bezos

We built this company from the customer back, not from the company out.

- Lou Gerstner, IBM, who traveled over 1 million miles to visit customers during his nine years as CEO)

On The Move

Stacey Blair

The Council of Lanark Highlands announces the appointment of Stacey Blair as the Planning Administrator/Deputy Clerk. A graduate of Queen's University, Stacey has varied and extensive municipal experience. Most recently she was the acting CAO of the Township of McNab-Braeside.

Emerson Velasco

The Economic Development Corporation of Pontiac (CDE) and the Pontiac Tourism Association (PTA) announces Emerson Velasco as their new Tourism Marketing Officer. Velasco has a degree in marketing and a Masters in tourism development. He has 10 years in tourism experience in marketing, travel agency sales and community tourism development in South America and Canada. He is fluent in French, English and Spanish.

Tim Murray

Tim Murray, the former General Manager for the Ottawa Senators, has been named General Manager for the Buffalo Sabres. Murray is from Shawville, Quebec.

Dave Hartwick

Dave Hartwick is the new interim Fire Chief for the Township of McNab Braeside. Hartwick replaces Ken Walton who resigned effective January 1, 2014.

Jody Miller

Jody Miller is the new Kitchen Designer for Deslaurier Custom Cabinets. Miller was born and raised in Renfrew County and has been part of the Deslaurier business for 10 years. She has renovated several homes, including her family's dream home. She can be reached at jmiller@deslaurier.ca

Dwayne Bielawski

Dwayne Bielawski has been appointed as the new Deputy Fire Chief for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards.

Alan Johnson

Alan Johnson is the new Project Engineer with the County of Renfrew. Mr. Johnson

commenced his employment with the County in November 2013.

Dennis Pecoskie

Dennis Pecoski is the new Truck/Equipment Operator at the Pembroke Patrol for the County of Renfrew. Mr. Pecoskie has been employed by the County as a casual operator and transferred to permanent status in December.

Wayne Chapeskie

Wayne Chapeskie is the new casual operator for the County of Renfrew and began his employment with the County in December.

Tom Sidney

Sidney has joined the Integrative Counselling Services (ICS) team. He will specialize in youth-related issues as well as family and couples conflict. Sidney has over 20 years of experience and has specialized training in youth and family issues, suicide prevention and self-injurious behaviour.

Ron McMillan

The Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre recently recognized Ron McMillan, Operations Leadhand, with his 10-year service pin.

Send your people news to:
admin@ovbusiness.com

Transparency In Government Municipal cases more than double in 2012-13: Ombudsman

The Ontario Ombudsman investigates issues where government is deemed to have acted inappropriately. While they normally cover the provincial government, last year, changes to the Municipal Act allowed them to be an investigator for municipal complaints as well.

Municipalities had the option of choosing another investigator, but the Ontario Ombudsman was chosen by 191 municipalities (almost half of Ontario's total.)

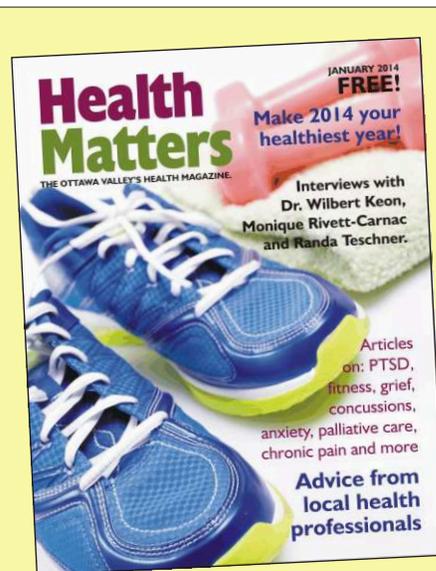
The 2012-13 report found that there is a strong and growing public interest in the government transparency at the municipal level as the number of complaints "is more than double" that of last year. The Ombudsman also found that there is confusion about meeting rules being open versus closed and that there is a need for education on this topic for all, including officials and politicians.

From September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013, the Ombudsman's office received 293 complaints about closed meetings. Of those, 246 fell within their jurisdiction to investigate. These were related to 59 different councils. Some

were multiple complaints about the same meeting, so in all, the Ombudsman's office reviewed 96 meetings. Of those, 19 were determined to be illegal, violating the open meeting requirements of the Municipal Act or Sunshine Law. There were also 31 procedural violations.

The spirit of the law is to ensure that local governments conduct business in public. There were cases of meetings being held in restaurants and coffee shops that involved elected members of council. For this the Ombudsman said, "No doubt there are those who yearn to return to an era of old-school backroom politics, but in the modern age of transparency and accountability, the citizens demand better." The report notes that councillors are free to socialize but must not undermine the law by using informal gatherings (or email or phone calls) to hide business from the public.

The report also noted that the role of the media is important in ensuring transparency and openness in government business. The full report can be found online at www.ovbusiness.com



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2014 issues publishing in
May and September

Election Update

Who's running in Renfrew County?

Seeking Election

Arnprior

Councillor- Dan Lynch

Bonnechere Valley

Mayor - Jennifer Murphy

Deep River

Mayor - David Thompson

Reeve - Glenn Doncaster

Horton

Councillor- Margaret Whyte

Laurentian Hills

Mayor - Dick Rabishaw

Councillor W4 - Dennis Hyde

McNab Braeside

Mayor - Tom Peckett

Dep. Mayor - Brad McIlquham

Pembroke

Mayor - Dan Callaghan

Councillor - Garland Wong

Councillor - Ron Gervais

Renfrew

Mayor - Callum Scott

Mayor - Tom Anderson

Reeve - Kate Windle

Renfrew County District

School Board Trustee

Barbara Basso

Incumbents Not Seeking Re-Election

Arnprior

Councillor Mark Wilmer

Laurentian Valley

Mayor Jack Wilson

City of Pembroke

Councillor Terry O'Neill

Renfrew

Councillor Gail Cole

Councillor Andrew Evans

Additional Notes

Renfrew

Andrew Cartwright had filed his papers for Mayor but has since withdrawn his nomination.

Note: We have asked municipalities for information regarding who has filed, but candidates are welcome to let us know as well.

Depression in the Workplace

80% of people resume a regular and productive life once treated

By: Shelley Termarsch
Administrator, Valley EFAP
Administrator@valleyefap.com

Everyone had times where they become frustrated or discouraged with life. You may have the blues or feel sad, but usually it is for a brief time. When emotions persist and start interfering with everyday life, it may signal depression.

Depression sets in when no amount of cheering up, exercise, vitamins or vacation relieves the stress. Depression more often affects people in their working years when they are aged 24 to 44. At any given time one in 20 employees can be experiencing depression. If left untreated, this translates into decreased productivity and increased sick days in the workplace.

Depression can come on gradually or suddenly. To those around them, the depressed person will appear more withdrawn. Here are some *personal changes* to look for if you suspect someone may be struggling with depression: irritability, withdrawal from or notable dependence on others, hopelessness/despair, slowness of speech, lack of energy and alcohol or drug abuse.

Here are some workplace changes that could be signs of depression: difficulty making decisions, being less productive, unable to concentrate, increased

work errors, dependability issues, prone to accidents, increased tardiness or use of "sick days" and lack of enthusiasm for work.

People with depression live with it 24 hours a day, but they will work hardest to mask the issue in the workplace. This is due to a fear of reprimand, dismissal, stigmatization and shame.

You can support a colleague with depression by encouraging them to seek help and increasing awareness of resources and services available, whether within your workplace or within the community. Often gently suggesting that they may want to consult with their doctor or a mental health professional to "rule out depression" may be received as non-threatening and supportive to your colleague.

If depression is left untreated, a person can become withdrawn to the point that they cannot leave their home or even get out of bed. 15% of people with severe depression die from suicide. On the other hand, treatment has an 80% success rate that the person can resume a normal and productive lifestyle. If you can help a colleague, you may be their lifeline to mental wellness.

Shelley is a counsellor and administrator for Valley EFAP. Her column appears monthly.



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Tender Results Around The Region

Heritage Conservation District Study and Plan. Town of Mississippi Mills.

Watson MacEwen - \$43,395.00
MHBC Planning - \$57,782.50.00
Commonwealth - \$59,585.00
Golder Associates - \$50,000.00
Archaeological Assoc. - \$49,020.00
Awarded to Watson MacEwen
Teramura Architects.

Upgrade Telecommunications System. Town of Deep River.

Awarded to Bell. No further information provided as responses received were all marked confidential and will not be disclosed.

PWC-2013-31 Close Cut Clearing on County Road 34 (Whelan Road). County of Renfrew.

Bonnechere Excav. - \$28,728.00
Crain's Construction - \$28,984.00
Elm Enterprises - \$37,600.00
Thomas Cavanagh - \$38,840.00
RGT Clouthier - \$43,920.00
MJ Enright & Sons - \$63,000.00
Tor Mac Tree Service - \$75,180.00
Tim Allen's - \$78,000.00
Awarded to Bonnechere Excavating.

RFT #2014-08 Roof Replacements.

Renfrew County District School Board.

Amherst Roofing (Ottawa)
Arnprior DHS - \$132,463.00
Admaston PS - \$89,821.00
Fellowes HS - \$214,087.00
Champlain Discovery - \$95,470.00
Highview PS - \$86,984.00
Covertite Eastern Ltd (Ottawa)
Arnprior DHS - \$208,800.00
Admaston PS - \$123,370.00
Fellowes HS - No Bid
Champlain Discovery - \$175,200.00
Highview PS - \$90,780.00
JG Fitzgerald (North Bay)
Arnprior DHS - \$115,875.00
Admaston PS - \$77,995.00
Fellowes HS - \$93,385.00
Champlain Discovery - \$93,800.00
Highview PSI - \$49,875.00
Irvcon Limited (Pembroke)
Arnprior DHS - \$139,360.00
Admaston PS - \$83,336.00
Fellowes HS - \$163,284.00
Champlain Discovery - \$102,628.00
Highview PS - \$60,928.00
Ray Cyr Roofing (Ottawa)
Arnprior DHS - \$192,200.00
Admaston PS - \$126,600.00
Fellowes HS - \$283,000.00
Champlain Discovery - \$190,100.00
Highview PS - \$113,700.00
Semple Gooder (Belleville)
Arnprior DHS - \$183,695.12
Admaston PS - \$129,317.24
Fellowes HS - \$184,016.82
Champlain Discovery - \$160,668.82

Highview PS - \$101,563.35
Flynn Canada (Ottawa)
Arnprior DHS - \$210,600.00
Admaston PS - \$155,890.00
Fellowes HS - No Bid
Champlain Discovery - \$196,300.00
Highview PS - \$154,320.00
Awarded to JG Fitzgerald & Sons.

Contract #PW-E-04-2014-14-E0 Supply and Delivery of Cab and Chassis and/or the Supply and Installation of Plow Equipment. Lanark County. Cancelled.

Contract #PW-F-06-2014-14-E0 Community Forest Red Pine Timber Harvesting. Lanark County. Cancelled.

Contract #PW-B-30-2013-13-RFI 10 Acre Property Wanted for Purchase. Lanark County.

An undisclosed number of submissions were received for this RFI. A decision to move forward has not been reached to date.

No. AD09-2013 Contract Cleaner - Griffith. Township of Greater Madawaska. This RFP was not awarded.

Timber Sale. County of Renfrew.
Although 13 tender packages were issued and there were several inquiries, no offers were received for the Timber Sale. The County has indicated that the lateness of season, snow depth, and a lack of a workforce availability were all likely factors for this result. The tender will be reissued in the spring or summer of 2014.

Generator Panel Hook-Up. Township of Beckwith.

Bids were submitted by KE Electrical Ltd, Toban Electrical Inc, JWK Utilities & Site Services Ltd and Patterson Electric. Awarded to Patterson Electric in the amount of \$34,600.00. The municipality did not provide bid amounts for the other bidders.

Triple Pumper Tanker. Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards.

Arnprior Fire Trucks Corp.
7500 4x4 - \$279,000.00
7400 4x4 - \$277,714.00
Eastway Emergency Vehicles Inc.
7500 4x4 - \$325,408.00
7500 4x2 - \$289,638.00
Awarded to Arnprior Fire Trucks.

Tender 14-CORP-001 Sale of Land. Town of Smiths Falls.

There was only one bidder on this Sale of Land. Awarded to Jeanne MacKinnon in the amount of \$38,101.00.

Landfill Site Timber Tender. Horton Township.

There was only one bid received for this tender. Awarded to Raymond B. Bell & Sons Ltd. in the amount of \$62.00 per cubic metre for cedar.

Ottawa Valley BUSINESS

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Tenders

Website Redesign and Support Services

Engineering Services:
Campbell Bridge

Engineering Services:
Concession 6D Bridge

List Your Tender

There is no cost to post your tender with us. Send them to: admin@ovbusiness.com
All tenders are posted in full at www.ovbusiness.com

Tender Results

Ottawa Valley Business contacts all organizations who have posted tenders to ask for results. In most cases, those results are provided. All public agencies are required to release their tender results. If you are looking for results to a specific tender, please feel free to make the inquiry, or ask us.

Tender Postings for 2013

Ottawa Valley Business posted more than 300 tenders for 2013.

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Companies are getting serious about protecting their copyrighted work



MARKETING

By: Jennifer Layman
jenn@fwdthink.net

I have to admit, this is a first for inspiration for the marketing column.

Last week I was in a Pembroke restaurant for lunch. At the end of the meal, I had to use the facilities and headed to the washroom. I walked in on a conversation between two women who were using the only two available stalls, so I waited. They were talking about having received a letter from a stock photo company demanding they remove the company's photo or pay \$750 for its use as it had been used illegally.

I have to admit, I was pretty surprised to learn that this well-known stock photo agency had found out about what appeared to be a local organization using its images for free, and even more surprised that they had followed up with a demand letter. One of the two women

was definitely more vocal about the issue, and continued to release details that only made my feeling about it more clear: good for the stock photo company.

People use images off the Internet all the time without regard to the legality of it all. I see it frequently in the local community and a shiver goes down my spine every single time. It's the theft of creative work and it happens way too often, especially from people who do their own design work, but sometimes also from "professionals" who try to save a few bucks without purchasing the image.

As the woman in the washroom continued, she thought it was just awful that this big company would demand to be paid for the use of its product by a small community organization. "It's just another tactic from big private business preying on small organizations and making their lives miserable," continued the woman. At this point, my blood was starting to boil a little. Was she saying that businesses of a certain size should allow other to rip them off? Or, was it all

businesses? But before I could contemplate jumping into this bathroom chatter, the woman revealed a little detail that sent me into shock: the organization had something to do with the arts.

And here is the irony of the entire situation: this small, local arts-focused organization stole artwork from a company who pay artists for their images so artists can make a living.

I never did see the woman who was verbalizing the "injustice." Of the two stalls available, it was the one used by the quieter woman that became available first, and no sooner did I close the door when the other woman exited. I wondered who it might be, but I didn't have enough details to go on. That was probably a good thing.

I wonder what the organization will do. Will they re-print their logo, business cards, flyers, website and more with un-stolen art? Or, will they pay the \$750 to not have to re-do and re-order everything? Whatever the decision, their "free" artwork came at a high cost.

Jennifer is the president of Forward Thinking Marketing in Petawawa. Her column appears every issue.

News Extra

Smoking Penalties May Increase

Ontario will introduce legislation and propose regulatory changes that would, if passed, strengthen the Smoke-Free Ontario Act by increasing penalties for selling tobacco to kids and further limiting smoking in public areas, such as sports fields and restaurant patios. Fines would also increase and there would be enforcement to allow for testing of tobacco in waterpipes in indoor public places. 58 municipalities already ban smoking on playgrounds.

Emerald Ash Borer

Municipalities in Ontario now have access to new tools to assist in their current or pending battle against the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). This invasive pest kills ash trees and poses significant risks to people, property and the environment as it spreads its devastation throughout southern, central and eastern Ontario. The tools include a municipal-oriented video, a slideshow on EAB management and a rural-oriented video. All tools help municipalities create a strategy. For information, visit: www.eomf.on.ca

Are You Registered?

If you had any problems with being on the voter's list for the last election, or if you have recently moved, you may wish to check that you are on the current voter's list. A website has been designed to provide you with that information. Visit: www.voterlookup.ca and enter the information for an immediate response if you are on the voter's list. If you are not, you can contact your local municipality to be placed on the list.

CFIB Grades Government

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) has graded the red tape progress across Canada. Ontario earned a B rating, unchanged from last year, and Quebec earned a B+, up from a B in the previous report. BC earned the only A.



Someday doesn't exist.
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If you have been putting off spending some time on your marketing strategy, you now have 337 days left to get it done this year.

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