

BEST OVERALL NEWSPAPER

Very good selection of publications covering a variety of markets. I was very impressed with the page count, variety of content and use of pictures from papers in the aboriginal or arctic communities. With some minor improvements, which are not costly, other than a bit of time to re-design, they would rank near the top without a question. Most papers received lower marks because they are weak on sports, classified, or editorial / OP-Ed pages. A couple of the papers could lower their advertising ratio on most of the pages to provide more content, which will increase reader impression of the paper as an important asset in the community.

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THE DILEMMA OF PRIVATE LIVES AND PUBLIC PEOPLE - PAGE 18

CITY EDITION SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

The Suburban

QUEBEC'S LARGEST ENGLISH WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Use it or lose it

Virage, large cuts, changes could follow school board elections

By Joel Ceausu
The Suburban

As the first school board election in seven years rolls closer across the province, many are sounding the alarm on how important this vote actually is, beyond who gets elected.

Commissioners, administrators and government officials have hinted, intimidated and whispered for more than a year that if election turnouts don't exceed its most recent dismal averages, then the status quo will soon be but a distant memory.

Does that mean chucking school boards? Probably not, but their days are numbered in their current form, agrees veteran St. Leonard EMSB commissioner Frank Verrillo, who is not running for re-election in November. "But I agree wholeheartedly."

See USE IT OR LOSE IT, page 6

"The days when Jews run away are over."

Coming to terms with the reality of "total evil"

ALL THERE IS NO PLACE TO RUN ANY MORE

Last Wednesday morning we received an envelope with the vilest anti-semitic messages in it.

The hatred within

Beryl Wajzman
Editor, The Suburban

Several weeks ago we printed Israeli Finance Minister Yair Lapid's speech entitled "The days when Jews run away are over!" when Jews run away are over!" He delivered it at the Berlin Holocaust Memorial. Part of the speech concerned his grandparents and their experiences under the Nazis.

Last Wednesday morning we received an envelope with the vilest anti-semitic messages in it. They were written, as you can see from the pictures, over the text of Lapid speech on the pages from *The Suburban*. Complete with swastikas.

One had the slogan "There is no place to run anymore." The other read "Soon you will become a soap." The latter page had a picture of an ISIS death squad glued to the back.

This is not the first - nor assuredly the last - such hate mail either this newspaper or I personally have, or will, receive. We do not make it a policy of publicizing them. So you may reasonably ask why did we decide to take the front page on this occasion? We did it for the following reasons.

See ANTI-SEMITISM, page 9

Coptic pope visits Montreal

By Robert Frank
The Suburban

Hundreds of Coptic faithful packed St. Peter & St. Paul Coptic Orthodox Church on Lakeshore boulevard, Sept. 23, for the first visit of their Pope Tawadros II to Canada.

Pope Tawadros offered blessings and anointed two relics of the historic St. Peter and St. Paul, which were donated by former Roman Catholic Pope Benedict XVI.

The evening before, more than 700 dignitaries filled a ballroom at the Pointe Claire where St. Jeanne de Chantal congregation had been a part of the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, the Pope responded to questions from the congregation.

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THE SUBURBAN CITY EDITION

The Suburban City Edition ranked Best Overall. The advertising ratio is a bit high. With a high volume of advertising, there should be more reader content to give added value to the reader and provide better results for the advertisers.

THE EASTERN DOOR

The Eastern Door finished in a close second place. Its strong showing was because it has a very strong sports section, and is printed on "Brite White" roll stock. Unfortunately, its very weak classified section needs a lot of work to put it in first place.

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EASTERN DOOR

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After a year of delays, hospital expansion set

With some minor alterations to the original plan, the Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre expansion project finally received the green light last week.

THIS WEEK

Funding cuts
The Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre expansion project has received the green light last week. The project is being bid as a general contract via Quebec's online, open-bid system, but is subject to the Mohawk Council's construction tendering policy that ensures the community's interests and contractors benefit as much as possible.

Remembering the fallen
September 13, 2001 was a tragic day that shook Kahnawake workers hard. Less than a week before the 13th anniversary of the attacks, one Local 40 man looks back.

DANIEL J. ROWE
The Eastern Door

Political complications and disagreements on labour and insurance issues stalled the Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre expansion, after project manager Robert Deon announced a start date for tendering in July 2013.

The community was left asking, "Is this project even going to start?"

The answer, as announced last Friday, is finally, "yes."

In a news release Friday signed by Deon, the KMHC revealed that the schedule for the project has been confirmed and will proceed to tender from the Quebec Department of Health and Social Services.

"We're way overdue on the project itself," said Mohawk Council of Kahnawake labour portfolio chief Rhonda Kirby. "It took a lot of negotiating with the Quebec government on some of the issues the Quebec government had."

Quebec, along with the MKC, will release more information about the specific details of the project in the coming weeks.

"We all saw that it was taking too long to get the project off the ground," said Quebec minister responsible for Native Affairs Geoff Kelley. "I know minister (of health and social services) Gaetan Barrette and I are both pleased to see that we're moving forward because it's a project that responds to a great need in the community."

There was a disagreement over whether workers would be required to have insurance under Mohawk Self Insurance or CNST (Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail), as well as if contractors would require and RBC (registre de bâtiment) number. Quebec will foot over \$21 million of the \$26,777,000 bill for the project and wanted to ensure someone was responsible, should a contractor be unable to make payments, according to Kirby.

The project was doubly complicated by Quebec's change in government from Liberal (who approved the project originally under former premier Jean Charest) to the Parti Québécois majority government, then back to the Liberals this year.

With Liberal Philippe Couillard's majority win in this year's election council was confident and eager to get the project underway.

The project is being bid as a general contract via Quebec's online, open-bid system, but is subject to the Mohawk Council's construction tendering policy that ensures the community's interests and contractors benefit as much as possible.

"We're pretty confident with the labour force here," said Kirby. "We have well over 250 men and women who have been qualified through the qualifications program."

It's really looking at what type of training and safety instruction they've had. The majority of the people all have the safety training."

If all goes to plan, tendering should open in the first weeks of October with the award date planned for December 12. The project is scheduled for completion in August 2017.

"We are preparing the revised tender," said Deon. "The project underwent some changes in order to respect budget requirements, so those impact on the project in a minor fashion. The project's main objectives are in no way affected."

Deon confirmed that the original plan of adding 30 beds, 125 long-term care and five short-term, new X-ray and traditional healing centre and renovation of the kitchen have not been changed.

"We're still doing all of the program that was originally intended."

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SAINT-LAURENT

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CHOMEDEY PARTIES AT ANNUAL 'FÊTE DE QUARTIER'

Chomedey Liberal MMA Guy Quéllette, Laval city councillor for Souvenir-Labelle Jean Coupal are seen here with some of the many volunteers who lent a hand during the Fête de Quartier de Chomedey on Aug. 22.

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THE LAVAL NEWS

The Laval News finished in third place. It has great use of colour but is hampered by its weak classified and sports section. Lack of Letters to the Editor is a concern, which could be interpreted that it is not rated highly by readers as an important media asset to the community.

Judge: Maurice Rees, Publisher, The Shoreline Journal, Truro, NS • Number of entries for Best Overall Newspaper: 12