

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

It is always difficult to be subjective when judging as all these newspapers produce an opinion page with very good quality in writing, layout and letters. The presence of letters to the editor certainly shows that the paper is doing its role in writing on issues that the public needs to be aware of and react to. The use of local cartoons is rewarding to see. Great work from all of these papers.

1 THE SUBURBAN (CITY EDITION)

Very strong editorial opinion pieces is what newspapers are all about and this paper does just that, and their writing brings involvement from the public in the form of letters to the editor. Very good.

PONTIAC JOURNAL DU PONTIAC

The opinion piece and cartoon is what opinion pages are all about. If there was a page following with letters to the editor, it likely should be part of the entry as your newspaper is challenged for having just one opinion page when you are writing in two languages. Good job.

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Journal du Pontiac • 2015 / 05 / 06

Éditorial / Editorial

L'OLF pratique l'Inquisition

En tant que rédacteur français au sein du Journal du Pontiac, je suis profondément choqué de voir que l'Office québécois de la langue française adopte des pratiques réglementaires proches de celles du Moyen Âge.

Sans aucune compréhension de la spécificité linguistique de notre région du Pontiac, l'Office s'adonne à un véritable harcèlement auprès de notre équipe sans pour autant présenter des recommandations claires et écrites de ce qu'il faut mettre en place pour se conformer à la réglementation en vigueur. Je suis offensé en tant que citoyen canadien de voir que le bilinguisme puisse être méprisé de la sorte et suis nullement convaincu que l'amour et la défense du français passe par une position de rejet de l'anglais. Jusqu'à preuve du contraire, le Québec est une province du Canada et, dans l'Outaouais, le bilinguisme est une réalité canadienne qui nous définit, nous enrichit et nous accompagne dans notre vie quotidienne même si cela déplaît à certaines personnes à Québec.

Nous nous efforçons au Journal du Pontiac d'informer les communautés francophones et anglophones de la façon la plus équitable possible en tenant compte des réalités économiques qui régissent un Journal communautaire gratuit à vocation d'unir nos Pontissois et Pontissoises.

Au final, cette politique de s'opposer à l'autre conséquence que de porter préjudice au à la langue française, aux francophones et à tous ceux qui, jusqu'à aujourd'hui, apprécient le format de notre journal.

C'est une atteinte à la liberté d'expression aussi, en nous contraignant à adopter une division plus marquée des deux langues.

Je puis exposer nos arguments et faire valoir notre indignation. À cela s'ajoute, pour couronner le tout, la menace de voir le Journal continuer à être publié dans un format bilingue sans que nous n'ayons pu nous opposer à cette injustice.

Arnaud de la Salle

As editors of the French, English and bilingual sections of the Pontiac Journal, we are deeply shocked that the Office de la Langue Française (OLF) has enforced regulatory practices similar to those of the Middle Ages.

Their application of these archaic language laws was done without any understanding of the linguistic characteristics of the Pontiac area.

Canadians, we are offended to see bilingualism treated in this manner and are convinced that a love and appreciation for the French language is not those who enjoy the current bilingual layout of our paper. In reality, this is an attack on freedom of expression and forces us to create a clear division between the two languages. The threat of the Journal being heavily fined if we continue to deliver our news in our current format demonstrates the extent of the injustices being imposed and the severity of the consequences for not complying; we feel forced to give up our freedom of expression and independence.

At the Journal, we work hard to keep Francophone and Anglophone in the forefront as possible; this is not taking into account economic realities of a free community newspaper. Respect our different language heritages, and cultures better path to creating Quebec where we feel welcomed and proud to live in. This in turn strengthens the French language because everyone will be willing to learn it.

We invite you, readers, to show support by writing and proving to the that you oppose limitation on our freedom of expression.

Arnaud de la Salle & Alyson Beauvieux

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Plus fort tirage d'un journal de langue française dans le Pontiac
 Largest circulation English newspaper in Pontiac County

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EDITORIAL

The Suburban

QUEBEC'S LARGEST ENGLISH READER NEWSPAPER
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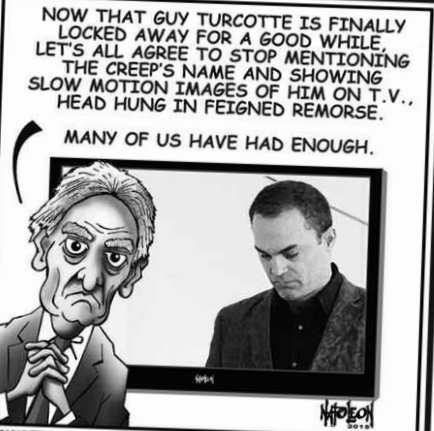
Ministry of Transport refusal to use English is a public safety risk

M. Poëti, time to stand up for law and for the dignity of all Quebecers

In an exclusive interview with *The Suburban* this past Friday, representatives of the Quebec Ministry of Transport were adamant in their refusal to include English instructions on traffic changes on the website of the Turcot Interchange, about to be closed for five years of repairs. People need to know what the Ministry of Transport (MTQ) position on language is not only an in-safety if drivers don't get the information they need. It is also a risk to public safety if drivers don't get the information they need. It is also a risk to public safety if drivers don't get the information they need. It is also a risk to public safety if drivers don't get the information they need.

NOW THAT GUY TURCOTTE IS FINALLY LOCKED AWAY FOR A GOOD WHILE, LET'S ALL AGREE TO STOP MENTIONING THE CREEP'S NAME AND SHOWING SLOW MOTION IMAGES OF HIM ON T.V., HEAD HUNG IN FEIGNED REMORSE.

MANY OF US HAVE HAD ENOUGH.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Priorities must change at provincial level too

Regarding your editorial on Priorities, the focus cannot just be on Federal government spending, but also provincial. The Couillard government is making massive, and arguably unsustainable, cuts to public health care and education, while simultaneously tabling a bill that will increase MNAs salaries by 20 per cent pay increase. While the government claims the wage increase will be balanced out by cuts to bonuses and pensions, we still see that a different standard of austerity applies to those in positions of political power.

Hannah Deegan
Montreal

Priorities are not in the right places

The issues you raised in your editorial

ities states, it is time to take care of the glue that keeps the government and its programs running, the middle class. Time to come home Mr. Trudeau and take care of the people of this country.

Gordon Berry
Montreal

Boomers will force their priorities

It is time to look after a problem that has been festering for some time no matter which government was in power. I am an optimist however, because the Boomers are a very large, vocal and capable block of voters and they are waking up to the fact that they are poorly done by in today's priorities. Any government that forgets this will have a very hard time in the future.

John F. Angus
Hudson

Editorial Page

Women will lead the way to an inquiry

STEVE BONSPIEL
THE EASTERN DOOR

Jody Wilson-Raybould was named justice minister and attorney general by incoming prime minister Justin Trudeau - a clear sign the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women (MMIW) is high on his priority list.

A politician who is so far staying in line with his promises, human, imagine that.

Wilson-Raybould, who is Kwakwaka'wakw, comes from a good political pedigree.

Her dad is Bill Wilson, who has a long history of leading his people and teaching the mainstream about the realities of his community through higher education. He was maybe best known for his role as director of the New of BC Indian Chiefs.

Wilson-Raybould (Vancouver Granville) previously held the position as regional chief at the Assembly of First Nations, but may be more importantly, as a crown prosecutor. She steps into the spotlight as one of 10 Okanagan women and she is used to fighting hard for what she wants.

She certainly has her work cut out for her and the justice portfolio comes with immense pressure.

Previously, Conservative Peter Mackay held the title as justice minister and attorney general, and he was quite regularly called to task for a number of issues, including his outright disrespect for MMIW.

On March 5, 2014, Mackay Stephen Harper famously said, of missing and murdered Indigenous women: "It isn't really very high on our radar, to be honest."

Add on top of Wilson-Raybould's workload previous Tory laws that have been challenged constitutionally at the Supreme Court - that she probably wants to distance herself from as much as possible - plus, amending Bill C-51 (anti terror, targeting our communities), legalized marijuana and assisted suicide, among many others; and you have a politician who has just been thrust into the deep side without a life jacket.

Who better to tackle the MMIW issue than someone who has a higher than average statistical chance of being targeted, abducted, raped or killed?

She knows firsthand what it is like to be an Indigenous woman in this country and she will, we hope, take this issue and do right by the victims' families.

The important thing, as Bennett mentioned almost as soon as he signed her papers at her swearing in ceremony, is to talk to the people about what is needed.

The victims' families, the grassroots, our women, directly. They are the ones who will tell these two ladies who have put much of their political lives and hearts into this issue, what the problem is.

They will also provide invaluable information that a staid robotic man like Harper simply could never have hope of extracting from Okanagan women.

The portrait that comes out of this investigation will reveal a lot of things and it will require much introspection and tenderness, healing and hard work, to change our reality today.

But it can be done and it will be, with this inquiry representing a huge stepping-stone for our communities.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What about the trucks?

Dear Editor:

I'm writing this letter in regards to the big truck problem on the 207. There is a sign just before the bridge that states "No trucks - local deliveries only."

I ride my bike to town every day. It seems to be getting worse, so I went and made a complaint to the band council and to the Peacekeepers. I thought the trucks had to use Highway 30 and from the quarry.

This is also the reason we have so much traffic in the morning. I hope something could be done to make it safer.

Darren "Patron" Jacobs

Don't leave your dogs tied up

Dear Editor:

It's that time of the year when the weather gets cold and rainy. Dogs should not be left outside on no shelter. That is cruelty.

Dogs are social creatures, like the wolves. They need companionship. When you leave a dog tied up all the time, it gets tied up because they need to move in order to keep warm - not tied where

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Good job, good layout. Probably more room for the newspaper information than I like but you still have all the components of a good opinion page.

THE EASTERN DOOR

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The Eastern Door is a community-based newspaper serving the community of Kahnawake regardless of birth, sex, age, language, politics or religion. The paper strives to be a factual, balanced, authoritative source of information with access to all segments of the community.

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