



Neighbours Newsletter

December 2019

NEIGHBOURS REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROUYN-NORANDA

CAQ Consults English-Speaking Community in Gatineau



Gatineau, Nov. 1, 2019— Board members and members of Neighbours staff travelled to Gatineau to meet with Christopher Skeete, CAQ Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for Relations with English-speaking Quebecers. The purpose of the meeting was to consult with groups representing the English-speaking community in Quebec about their concerns and needs. This session was the last stop in an historic tour of consultations with English-speakers in Quebec initiated by the CAQ this autumn and included representatives from community groups in Outaouais.

The theme of the meeting was *Building Bridges*, with the aim of making English-speakers in Quebec more aware of the role played by the Secretariat for Relations with English-speaking Quebecers, and how we can build better connections between both communities. The primary role of the Secretariat is to listen and ensure that the concerns of English-speaking Quebecers are taken into account in government decisions on policy.

Following the detailed history and purpose of the Secretariat, the consultations with community groups from Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Outaouais in earnest.

Chief concerns presented by representatives from our region spanned from education, to health, and cultural activities. Neighbours Bright Beginnings Project Co-ordinators Kathryn and Laurie Ann expressed concern over the lack of speech therapy for English-speaking people in Rouyn-Noranda for

both children and adults.

Our Executive Director Sharleen and NPI Health Co-ordinator Nathalie, spoke about the importance of Neighbours' partnership with our local CISSS (specially the regional hospitals). With recent senior staff turnovers at the hospital, there have been some problems in assessing the nature of our partnership with the new PDG. Natalie stressed the important role that Neighbours plays for English-speakers in obtaining health care service in English. It was suggested that provincial government play a role in contacting and working with hospitals in the regions to ensure that they are aware that there is an English community in their region and that they are entitled to services in English.

Neighbours Communication Agent Matt spoke to the paucity of newspaper and English language media for the English-speaking community of Abitibi. Additionally, he expressed desire for further communication between the Secretariat and the municipalities in the regions to assist the English-speaking communities and new arrivals receive English language services.

All in all the meeting was an important step in communicating your needs to government. It was an historic moment to present your concerns and make sure that government policy reflects the needs of the English-speaking community of Abitibi-Témiscamingue.

Visit Neighbours' website and Facebook page for daily updates

www.neighbours-rouyn-noranda.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/neighbours.rouynnoranda>

Neighbours Resigns from Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN)

At the time of this report going to print – sixteen (16) member organizations of the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) have withdrawn from the network; including Neighbours.

The QCGN's President has made public comments suggesting that these resignations were “engineered” by the Quebec government. Rest assured that is NOT the case at all. But rather, a series of actions over the past year by QCGN's president, Geoffrey Chambers, have led to the dissatisfaction about QCGN's leadership and governance that led to these resignations.



Geoffrey Chambers: QCGN President

This dissatisfaction has nothing to do with the CAQ government. It does not concern funding for organizations. It is not driven by policy differences. It is simply that the current QCGN leadership no longer represents the values of our region.

Neighbours has diligently been trying to find solutions to the many problems for over a year now to no resolution. It was unanimously voted by your board of directors to withdraw our membership until the QCGN can clean up their house. It was strongly felt that at the present time that the QCGN is doing more damage to the English-Speaking communities of Quebec than good.

It is not without regret that we leave the QCGN. As many of you will remember Alliance Quebec also saw a similar fate; but from the ashes of Alliance Quebec, Neighbours was created! This whole situation has given me personally time for reflection How is it that three organizations (in our history) have tried to represent the English Community and each has failed to justly represent the regions – the divide between Montreal island, mainland, and regions is an ever-growing span.



QCGN meeting with Premier Legault—only meeting to-date.

There are many ideas to why this is; but the one I am starting to lean towards the most is that English-speaking Montrealers are not really a minority. They do not understand the reality that we who live outside of Montreal are a true minority. But whatever the bottom-line reason – the fact remains that because of our reality we have developed a different tactic to dealing with the majority francophone institutions and organizations all around us. Rather than taking an angry approach we believe the best way to get results for our community is the “neighbourly” slant. After all, we know that after a meeting with a health care provider or a government official, we are

likely to run into them in the supermarket in the afternoon or meet them at the hockey arena that evening.

Healthy, respectful relationships, personal or professional, will get us just about anywhere we want to go. And that is a lesson that Anglophones in the more rural and isolated areas of the province learned long ago. What we do is teach Francophone officials about our communities; we show them the data that indicate our pressing needs; we recommend ways to meet those needs; and we act as partners accomplish our goals. While sometimes this approach takes more time than desired it very rarely fails!

So, while it's all interesting feed for the newspapers, there's nothing new here. Groups like CASA, NSCA, Vision, CAMI, VEQ and Neighbours will continue to quietly forge healthy, hopeful, human relationships with the francophone officials who serve our communities! Neighbours will continue to provide all the activities, programs and support for OUR COMMUNITY! And we will speak to governments and partners directly making sure that OUR VALUES are heard!



Sharleen working with QCGN ED Sylvia Martin-Laforge in Montreal

Submitted by – Sharleen Sullivan; Executive Director of Neighbours

Neighbours Present at Val d'Or Salon for Caregivers



November 7, Val d'Or— As Neighbours continues to expand its mandate from Rouyn-Noranda to encompass the larger Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, our organization has increased its presence outside the city. Representing Neighbours at a gathering for care givers and those who support them in Val d'Or (Salon des proches aidant) was English Health Services Agent for Val d'Or, Nick Deliyannakis.

The Salon des proches aidant provided Neighbours with more exposure and connections to make with health care organizations in Val d'Or. A representation of the help and services that Neighbours offers in English was communicated to event patrons, while promotion items were distributed.

Events and salons such as these are key to spreading and expanding the services provided by Neighbours. The field of English language health care services remains at the top of

our mandate at Neighbours. Additionally, these salons allow for the development of new network partnership initiatives; key strategies in delivering English language services to the English-speaking community of Abitibi-Témiscamingue.



2019 Canadian Federal Election Results

October 21st— The 43rd Canadian General Election yielded surprising results for us both at the local level in Abitibi and at the federal level.

The election saw a resurgence of the Bloc Québécois throughout the province and in our region. Bloc Québécois candidate Sébastien Lemire won his riding for Abitibi-Témiscamingue with 45.47% of the vote in our region. Liberal candidate Claude Thibault was the runner-up in the Abitibi riding, winning 24.76% of the vote. Former mayor of Rouyn-Noranda and Conservative Party candidate Mario Provencher came in third place, winning 15.03% of the vote. Neighbors congratulates Sébastien on his win and looks forward to working with him over the course of his mandate as we strive for the improvement of both Anglophone and Francophone communities in our region.



Bloc Québécois candidate for Abitibi-Baie James-Nunavik--Eeyou , Sylvie Bérubé, won her riding with 36.11%, followed by second and third place finished by Liberal and Conservative candidates Isabelle Bergeron and Martin Ferron, respectively. Overall, the Bloc won an additional 22 seats in the province, effectively putting an end to the 2011 “Orange Crush” wave of NDP popularity in Quebec when the party was lead by the late Jack Layton.

At the federal level, the Trudeau Liberals were voted into office with a minority government, winning a total of 157 seats. The Liberals lost a total of 22 seats from the 2015 election. Speculation on the rational for the loss of seats has ranged from voter fatigue, to Western alienation on the subject of energy and pipeline issues. The Liberals won big in Ontario and regions in Quebec with historic ties to Liberal party success. Ridings such as Montreal West, Outaouais, Gatineau, and the Laurentides all returned Liberals to Ottawa.

The Conservative Party has formed the official opposition, winning the popular vote over the Liberals, but winning only 121 seats; an increase of 26 from the 2015 general election. Criticism for the Conservatives’ failure to oust the Liberals has fallen primarily on the execution of the Conservative campaign, and on the personality of Conservative leader Andrew Scheer. Many conservative commentators have pointed to Mr. Scheer’s less than confident and personable image in parliament, televised debates, and advertising campaigns. The loss triggered a leadership vote of confidence, which Mr. Scheer narrowly survived.

New Democratic Party candidates were looking to capitalize on voter malaise with the Conservative and Liberal parties. Their campaign started off well with strong advertising aimed at wooing back voters in Quebec. However, the NDP faired better in coastal British Columbia, winning 11 of its 24 seats in that region. In total the NDP lost 15 seats they had previously gained in the 2015 election, winning only one seat in the province of Quebec.

Source: CBC News

Update on English Health Services Agent for Rouyn-Noranda

Since September our English Health Services Agent, Jessica Nesteruk, has been on assignment in our office at Murdoch street, as she is expecting the birth of her second child in the new year. Congrats Jess and Seb!



Taking Jessica's place in the role of English Health Services Agent, is our former Office and Project Co-ordinator, Vanessa Barrette-Lavallée. Vanessa is available to take your calls and appointments for any English language services that you may need. This can include being present with you at a doctor's appointment or emergency room visit to aid in translation and understanding. Services covered by the EHSA mandate include any of the services offered by the CLSC in Rouyn-Noranda. Vanessa will also be doing tours of the hospital in order to check on and assist English-speaking patients in the hospital and Pie X11.

If you require Vanessa's assistance, or to book an appointment, you can contact her by phone: 819-277-2302, or by email at: neighboursehs@outlook.com

Note to our members in Val d'Or (or to those who may know someone in need of assistance in Val d'Or):



Since September Nick Deliyannakis has been fulfilling the English Health Services role in Val d'Or. Nick is available to perform all the same services as Vanessa for English-speaking residents in need in Val d'Or. For more information, or to book an appointment, you can contact Nick via phone at 819-355-9496, or by email at neighboursehsvaldor@outlook.com

Night Parking in Rouyn-Noranda for the Winter Months

With winter now in full swing in our region, the City of Rouyn-Noranda has published its rules for night parking in our city for the winter months. Here is a brief recap for our members to help you avoid any unnecessary tickets:

Under municipal by-law it is prohibited to park your vehicle on public roads between the hours of 2 am to 7 am from November 1st to April 1st.

The by-law, however, is not quite so draconian as the above may seem.

During the winter months the City of Rouyn-Noranda provides residents with night parking at various locations throughout the city. Starting as a pilot project last year, the city will continue to offer these parking spots for winter 2019-2020. As means to accommodate citizens who do not have access to parking during the winter, the City of Rouyn-Noranda has opted to create four areas designated for winter overnight parking and make them available to citizens. Cars may be parked in designated lots from 2 am to 7 am from November 1st to April 1st.

Lots designated for winter overnight parking are as follows:

- Lake Avenue / Gamble Street: 8 lots available
- Place de la Citoyenneté: 16 lots available
- Mgr Tessier Street East: 5 lots available from Thursday to Sunday
- 7th and 8th Street: 16 spaces available



In order to assist with snow removal, those using lots designated for overnight parking are asked to move their vehicles daily. Failure to comply with rules posted on signs will result in cars being towed away at the owner's expense. The City provides visitors with some parking spaces. For more information call 819-797-7111

For more information you may visit the City's website at: <http://www.ville.rouyn-noranda.qc.ca/fr/page/stationnement-de-nuit/>

Or for more information and / or assistance understanding the policy, please call Neighbours at 819-762-0882.

Source: City of Rouyn-Noranda

Bright Beginnings and Campfire Club at Neighbours



Neighbours Campfire Club has been jumping since starting back up again in September. Since teaming up with our Bright Beginnings Project Co-ordinator Kathryn, and Activity Co-ordinator Laurie Ann, our Campfire Club kids have been having a great time on Tuesday afternoons.

Our Bright Beginnings team having been trying to strike a balance between fun and educational activities. So, with that in mind, Kathryn and Laurie Ann began the Campfire Club year with a lesson on the change in the seasons. The kids learned about how and why trees change in colour from summer to fall. To illustrate the lesson, the kids made their own trees and leaves from tissue paper and decorated the Neighbours ARC to the delight of our staff and members.



With all the talk about diversity in the news, our schools, and online, Laurie Ann and Kathryn saw this as an opportunity to discuss the topic at Campfire Club. The kids learned about the various ways that people are different, and made apples of all kinds of colours and from a variety of materials.



In honour of our veterans, and for those who served in the World Wars, the kids were given a brief lesson about the nature of Remembrance Day. The kids listened to a reading of John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields", before decorating a placard with homemade poppies and "thank you" messages for those who served past and present.

Campfire Club is Neighbours Association of Rouyn-Noranda English language educational afterschool program for children aged 5-10. If you are interested in

signing your child up for Campfire Club, please call the office at 81-762-0882 and speak with either Kathryn or Laurie Ann.

Senior's Afternoons at Neighbours

Since this October Neighbours has been hosting a senior's activity in our ARC every Wednesdays at 1:30 in the afternoon. Neighbours implemented this weekly series of events with the aim of providing a space for our seniors where they can be comfortable to socialize with each other and break feelings of isolation while participating in a shared activity.



Thus far we have a hosted a variety of activities and speakers for our senior's community. We began our afternoons with arts and crafts: members made their own Thanksgiving themed centerpieces to decorate their tables—along with all that turkey and fixings. Next, as part of our preparation for consultations with the Secretariat for Relations with English-speaking Quebecers, Christopher Skeete, we gathered together members of the senior



community in order to better understand their concerns. A variety of issues were discussed ranging from senior's health care, minority language rights, education, and immigration.

Neighbours staff and board members collected these opinions and presented them as part of their meeting with Mr. Skeete in Gatineau on November 1st.



Neighbours thanks pharmacist Sebastian Côté for coming in to present information on prescription medications, vitamins, and supplements. Sebastian was an energetic presenter who deftly answered all the pharmacy related questions sent his way. Sebastien's presentation dove-tailed



nicely with the following week's activity on the importance of getting enough protein in our diet as we age. That afternoon we made protein balls with peanut butter, oats, and coconut; and then we made a variety of healthy and delicious smoothies. You couldn't even taste the kale or spinach, honestly!

Neighbours Seniors Afternoons will continue to run every Wednesday at 1:30 pm. For more information please call 819-762-0882.

Renovations Reveal a Mystery at Noranda School— Can You Guess Who?

It would seem that the recent renovations at Noranda School have produced a fantastic photo mystery. Mrs. Sue Hamilton, long serving and stalwart teacher at Noranda School, discovered a small packet of photos among some of the detritus created by current renovations and construction being carried out at the school.

Unmarked and undated, the people in the photographs have not been identified as yet by anyone at the school or via sharing on the Noranda School and Neighbours Facebook pages. As illustrated below, the black and white photographs seem to date from the early 1960's. Mrs. Hamilton reached out to us at Neighbours to ask our members if they might be able to identify the subjects found in the photographs.

Do you know who any of these people are?



If you know who any of the people are in these photographs, help Mrs. Hamilton and Neighbours out by getting a hold of us— and be the first one to break the mystery!

Call Matt at the Neighbours office at 819-762-0882 or email him at: neighboursinfo@cablevision.qc.ca

Did You Know? Rouyn-Noranda Archives at Neighbours

In attempting to solve this photo mystery Neighbours' Communication Agent, Matt, consulted the Neighbours archives of Rouyn-Noranda history. While he came up a little short of finding the names of the above students, he did discover the extent of the historical archives housed at the Neighbours office.

Within the archives housed at Neighbours there is a small collection of Noranda School yearbooks, *The Northern Light*. Currently, Neighbours has copies of *The Northern Light* for the following years: 1952, 1953, 1957, 1958, 1958-59, 1961, 1962, and 1965. In addition there are two copies of the 50th Anniversary of *Noranda School 1940-1950*.

Items in the Neighbours archives are non-circulating, but available for perusal by our members free of charge and by request. If you are interested in seeing some of the items in the Neighbours archives of Rouyn-Noranda, please call or email Matt at 819-762-0882, or via email neighboursinfor@cablevision.qc.ca.

Other items in our Neighbours archives include:

- Newspapers and clippings
- Photographs
- Business and mining ephemera
- And so much more!



Legault: “Closing Fonderie Horne Last Resort”

Nov.13th, Rouyn-Noranda— In a recent visit to Abitibi, Premier Francois Legault stated that his government is prepared to examine a number of solutions regarding the public health concerns stemming from pollutants emitted by the Fonderie Horner in the Notre Dame neighbourhood of Noranda. "We do not exclude anything (to solve or at least mitigate the problem of arsenic emissions), including this scenario of closure, but it would really be the last resort, said Mr. Legault.

During his visit Mr Legault appeared to backtrack on previous statements he made last month in the National Assembly, when he responded to citizen’s concern regarding arsenic levels in the city as posing a “minimal risk” to residents. "What we want to make sure is that there is no danger to the health of the population. Currently, detailed studies are being conducted by the people of Public Health, the minister responsible Lionel Carmant is involved in the case, he himself has children and he will never tolerate putting the health of children at risk,” he said.

Mr. Legault then added that the less-detailed studies currently available to the provincial government "demonstrate that yes, we exceed the standards (of emissions) of arsenic, but that there is no case of impact - in hospitals and the health system - on cancer or whatever", the premier said. The less-detailed studies referenced by Mr. Legault were those conducted last year in 2018 and published this autumn. The publication of those studies resulted in the call for more testing for levels of arsenic, and cadmium in nail and soil samples in the Notre Dame area, with the results to expected to be published in 2020.

Preventing further public health risk was stressed by Mr. Legault during his statement and added that the CAQ government will "ensure to have in hand further studies that will be completed in the coming months. We will then be able to either request work at the company, or to do our own work. And in all cases, the priority is the health of the population."

Glencorp Canada Corp., the company that currently owns and operates the Fonderie Horne, was found to be non-compliant with environmental protection laws 18 times between 2017 and 2018. While closing the Fonderie Horne may seem unlikely, Glencorp Canada recently announced the closing of its Brunswick Smelter in Belledune, northern New Brunswick. Citing non-profitable operations as the rational for closing Brunswick Smelter, the closure will see over 400 people un-employed by Christmas.

The Fonderie Horner currently employs 620 people in Rouyn-Noranda, making it a major contributor to the local economy. Closure would certainly impact the local economy negatively, and may play against CAQ’s vocal support for large scale industrial projects.

In additional to discussing public health concern during his stop in Abitibi, Mr. Legault spoke to the party’s openness towards projects like oil pipelines. Current proposals call for a pipeline to be built that would stretch across the region west to east, between Northern Ontario and Saguenay. The pipeline would carry with it liquefied natural gas to be imported from Canada to Europe. It has been claimed that such a process would replace oil and other energy sources that are more polluting than gas. When asked about the pipeline, the premier said that the government is currently evaluating the project.

"The proponents of the project (Gazoduc) tell us that, in total, there would be a net reduction of 21 million tonnes of GHG (green house gases) per year for the planet. It is important for us that this is a positive project for the environment. If the project goes ahead, there will be a BAPE (consultation with the bureau d’audiences publiques sur l’environnement) and all the environmental studies required to ensure that there are no risks to the environment and the health of the population, " said Mr. Legault.

While there was discussion on the subject of pipelines, there has yet to be comment on how the CAQ plans to work with newly elected federal members of the Bloc Québécois in the region. During the most recent federal election the ridings of Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Abitibi-Baie James-Nunavik--Eeyou elected Sébastien Lemire and Sylvie Bérubé, respectively. A key part of the Bloc Québécois platform was their opposition to large scale energy industry projects, such as the Energy East pipeline. Energy East was a proposed pipeline that would have carried liquefied natural gas and bitumen from western to eastern Canada, with southern delivery ports in North Dakota. The proposed pipeline was fiercely contested from many, with Aboriginal groups and Bloc supporters being among key detractors in the province of Quebec. The Energy East pipeline was cancelled by TransCanada in October 2017.

Source: Le Citoyen, CBC News, Radio Canada, ICI Abitibi-Témiscamingue

Operation Nez Rouge 2019:

Rouyn Noranda



The 2019 Operation Nez rouge / Operation Red Nose campaign has officially launched in Rouyn-Noranda, with the first weekend of vehicle escort services on November 29th and 30th. In addition, the following dates for vehicle escorting have been set as follows: December 6th and 7th, December 13th and 14th, and December 20th and 21st.

If you want to volunteer as a driver for Operation Nez rouge in Rouyn-Noranda, you can contact their offices in town via:

- Phone: 819-762-0931 extension 1311
- Email: rouyn-noranda@operationnezrouge.com
- In person at: 407 avenue Murdoch

You will need two pieces of valid photo identification in order to volunteer as a driver, and you will need to select the dates in which you are able to volunteer.

Operation Nez Rouge: A History

In 1984, Jean-Marie De Koninck was a mathematics professor (he still is today) and, in his free time, the head coach of the swim club at Laval University. Wanting to provide bursaries for student athletes, he was looking for an original way to raise funds for his team.

One day, at the end of September 1984, as he was driving, he was listening to a radio show about the serious problems caused by impaired driving. At the time, statistics showed that more than 50 % of fatal crashes were caused by motorists who had consumed alcohol. Next, a bartender came on to talk about a disturbing trend he'd noticed at the bar where he worked. At closing time, many customers didn't want to leave their vehicle behind and take a cab home not because the cab fare was too expensive, but because every good Quebecker likes to have his car in his driveway and have access to it at all times.

That's when De Koninck came up with an idea: he'd get his 25 swimmers to offer motorists who had had a few drinks to drive them home in their own vehicle. With the collaboration of the Quebec City municipal police and CHRC radio station, the very first Operation Red Nose campaign was thus launched from December 13th to the 23rd, 1984. Needless to say, that first campaign was a success, and the Operation Red Nose campaign has been held during every holiday season since 1984. From a mere fundraising idea, De Koninck has developed a road safety campaign which benefits the population all year long.

Today, more than 100 organizations across Canada benefit from the proceeds of the Operation Red Nose campaign. Each year, between \$1,200,000 and \$1,300,000 are redistributed to non-profit youth organizations and/or amateur sports organizations.

From the very beginning, Operation Red Nose adopted a philosophy that enabled it to gain the trust and respect of the population. The organization does not encourage nor condone those who choose to have a drink. Instead, the message « DON'T DRIVE IF YOU ARE IMPAIRED » is conveyed in a humorous and non-judgemental way. Operation Red Nose's preventive approach is a wonderful complement to the more repressive measures of the law.

Since 1984, Operation Red Nose hasn't stopped growing and welcoming new communities, reinforcing the effects of its road safety campaign. In 1989, Operation Red Nose entered into a partnership with Éduc'alcool in order to create Tournée Party sans Dérapper, a program that brings awareness to young people ages 16 to 24 about the importance of acting responsibly when it comes to alcohol consumption and impaired driving.

In 2006, the program C'est notre tournée! was launched with, once again, the collaboration of Éduc'alcool. This time, the program is an interactive conference offered for free in work places, and the objective is to promote moderation in the consumption of alcohol and to prevent impaired driving with workers, consumers and parents

Source: Operation Nez Rouge

Holiday Fun Facts

“Jingle Bells” was written for Thanksgiving, not Christmas. The song was written in 1857 by James Lord Pierpont and published under the title “*One Horse Open Sleigh*”. It was supposed to be played in the composer’s Sunday school class during Thanksgiving as a way to commemorate the famed Medford sleigh races. “Jingle Bells” was also the first song to be broadcast from space.



Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was created by Robert L. May in 1939 for Chicago-based retailer Montgomery Ward. Every year Montgomery Ward stores would give away colouring books to children as part of their Christmas marketing campaign. After discovering that producing their own colouring book would save them money, executives hired Robert L. May to design a character and book for them. The character was an immediate hit with children and spawned a hit song sung by Gene Autry in 1949. In 1964 the classic stop motion television special was broadcast for the first time and has since become a staple holiday classic.



In Germany, Poland, and Ukraine, finding a spider or a spider’s web on a Christmas tree is believed to be a harbinger of good luck. According to one legend, a spider wove a blanket for the infant Jesus, according to the other – a spider web on the Christmas tree turned silver and gold once the sunlight touched it. One way or another, decorating a Christmas tree with artificial spiders and spider webs will inevitably bring you luck and prosperity.

The first artificial Christmas Tree wasn’t a tree at all. It was created out of goose feathers that were dyed green. The first artificial Christmas trees were developed in Germany in the 19th century, due to a major continuous deforestation. The feather trees became increasingly popular during the early 20th century and finally made their way to the US.

Japanese people traditionally eat at KFC for Christmas dinner. Although the percentage of Christian people in Japan is close to zero, every Christmas, kids and grown-ups head to the closest KFC to enjoy some fried chicken – the closest food to turkey that you can get in Japan. It’s all thanks to a successful “Kentucky for Christmas!” marketing campaign that started in 1974. First aimed at foreigners, and U.S. military personnel stationed in Japan, KFC offered a “Christmas Dinner” that contained chicken and wine – a meal that remotely resembled the food expats and tourists had at home. After a huge success, Kentucky Fried Chicken started promoting this offer every year, until the fast food chain became strongly associated with the holiday season.



Many in North America have become familiar with some of the stranger European holiday traditions: think Germany’s Krampus, or Sinteklaas’ helpers in the Netherlands, Black Pete. But did you know: Iceland has 13 Santas and an old lady who kidnaps children?! Christmas in Iceland is a colorful fusion of religion, fairy tales and folklore. Instead of one Santa, the kids are visited by 13 Yule Lads that either reward children for good behavior or punish them if they were naughty. The holiday period begins 13 days before Christmas and each day one of the 13 Yule Lads comes to houses and fills the shoes that kids leave under the Christmas tree either with sweets and small gifts or rotting potatoes, depending on how that particular child has behaved on the preceding day. The mother of Yule Lads, half-troll, half-beast, horrifying old woman Grýla, kidnaps naughty kids and boils them in her cauldron.

Source: Pastbook.com, thefactfile.org

Neighbours Holiday Social 2019

Sunday December 8th

5:00 pm

Le Noranda Convention Centre

Ticket Prices:

Ages 0 to 5: \$5

Ages 6 to 11: \$10

Members (ages 12+): \$20

Non-Members: \$40

*Ticket value is: \$40

Deadline For Ticket: December 3rd

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Concerning Ticket Sales:

This year Neighbours has decided to sell tickets at half the cost (\$20) the organization pays... **HOWEVER** if you **cancel or do not show up** for the meal; **you will be charged the remaining 50% (\$20 for a total of \$40)**

Presentation: City of Rouyn-Noranda Guide to Composting

In light of the recent queries from our members regarding the new brown bins for composting, Neighbours will be hosting two information sessions in our office with representatives of the city on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Our first session will be part of our regularly scheduled seniors afternoon on Dec. 4th at 1:30 pm.

The second session will also be on Dec. 4th at 7:00pm.

For more information, or to RSVP, please call 81-762-0882.



Tween Activity Hour @ Neighbours ARC

As part of our Bright Beginnings project, Neighbours will be hosting an activity hour for children ages 10-12 at Neighbours on Dec. 16th from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in our office at 139 Murdoch. Children will be responsible for walking themselves from school to Neighbours. This event is a pilot project to gauge interest and try to reach a demographic of children that are too old for Campfire Club, and too young for Teen Game Nights.

For more information, or to sign up your child, please contact either Laurie Ann or Kathryn at 81-762-0882, or via email at neighboursbbprojects@outlook.com





**To a Joyful Present
And a Well Remembered Past
Best Wishes for a Happy Holidays and
A Magnificent
New Year**



From Neighbours Board of Director's, Health Committee

*Richard Nolet Angie Garrick Garneau Darlene Constantini
Ann Marie Del Col Glenn Furlong Jacques Cloutier
Yves Hamel Elsie Sullivan Cairine Osborne
Janice Beaudin Marilyn Brethour*

And Staff



*Sharleen Sullivan
Nathalie Chevrier Jessica Nesteruk Vanessa Barrette
Matt Cartmell Laurie-Ann Boast Kathryn Constantini
Nick Deliyannakis*



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Deadline for Holiday Tickets 	4 Senior's Aft. City Composting 1:30 pm City Composting Night Session 7:00 pm	5	6	7 Teen Game Night @ 6:30 pm
8 Neighbours Holiday Social 5:00 pm Noranda Convention Centre	9	10 	11 Senior's Aft. Activity To Be Determined	12	13	14
15	16 Tween Activity Hour 4:00 pm To 5:00 pm	17 	18 Senior's Aft. Cookie Exchange 1:30 pm	19	20 Neighbours Office Closes at 12 pm Re-Opens Jan. 6th	21
22 	23 	24 	25 	26 	27 ED will be checking calls and emails	28 
29 	30 ED will be checking calls and emails	31 	1 	2 	3 ED will be checking calls and emails	4 



Our Health
IS IN OUR HANDS



Campfire Club
Every Tuesday 4:00pm to 5:00pm

In partnership with



Patrimoine
canadien

Canadian
Heritage