

localnews

LAKE REPORT

The following summary of conditions was issued on Thursday, May 20.

The current level of Lake of the Woods is 322.56 m (1058.3 ft), a 25th percentile level for this time of year. The lake rose 5 cm (2 in) over the last week, and is expected to rise 4-6 cm (1-2 in) over the next week.

Lake of the Woods outflow is 150 cubic meters per second.

The level of Lac Seul is 355.21 m (1165.4 ft), a 50th percentile level for this time of year. The lake level rose 8 cm (3 in) over the past week and is expected to rise 8-10cm (3-4 in) over the next week.

Lac Seul outflow is 135 cubic meters per second.

- LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD

WEATHER

Today: A mix of sun and cloud. High 26. UV index 7 or high.

Tonight: A few clouds. Low 12.

Saturday: Sunny with cloudy periods. Increasing cloudiness in the morning with 30 percent chance of showers in the afternoon and evening. Risk of a thunderstorm late in the day. Wind becoming south 20 km/h in the evening. High 25.

Sunday: Cloudy with 60 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Low 17. High 26.

Monday: A mix of sun and cloud. Low 13. High 28.

Tuesday: A mix of sun and cloud with 30 percent chance of showers. Low 16. High 26.

Wednesday: A mix of sun and cloud. Low 15. High 26.




Thursday: A mix of sun and cloud. Low 14. High 27.

Normals: High 19. Low 7.

Records: High 33 (1964). Low 0 (1987).

- ENVIRONMENT CANADA

MONEY

DOLLAR	BRITISH£	EURO
		
DOWN 2.12¢	UP 3.06¢	UP 4.19¢
93.65¢ US	\$1.5358 CDN	\$1.3358 CDN

QMI AGENCY

EFFORTS ACKNOWLEDGED

Local youth thanked for their philanthropy

JON THOMPSON
Miner and News

Donations from Youth In Philanthropy peppered the spectrum of need as high school students familiarized themselves with necessary agencies and made difficult choices with their donations.

"I just listened as an observer to the recipients talking about how they're going to use their grants," said Darlene MacGillvray, the executive director of the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Regional Community Foundation, noting the "yippers" have donated \$22,000 to 33 local charities in its five-year life. "They're talking about real life needs; people who need to be housed and fed, children in crisis who need resources to go to school, every dollar to them is a helpful one in a major way."

Saying the students had chosen "big priorities" this year for, she praised the city's charities for their eloquence.

Sponsored by the Copperfin Credit Union and the Kenora Rotary Club, students from both high schools donated four stacks of \$700 each to local charities after deliberating over the entire school year.

The Beaver Brae Secondary School graduated its entire team of "yippers" last year and as a result, the entire club entered without experience or prejudice. With that fresh energy, it reached outside of the previous program boundaries, fundraising to donate ShelterBoxes to Haiti in excess of its traditional donations.

"We had the leaders but we really had to go from scratch," said Grade 11 student, Rachel Sawatzky. "That's why we decided to do something different with the whole Haiti thing. We bent back and forth but kept the four (charities) and spread the money out as equally as we could."

The Cat Shelter's Jan Richardson stepped to the podium as the first recipient. She wore kneepads to represent the hard work of all who operate the

shelter without government assistance, particularly its visionary, Celine Alcock, who Richardson said hasn't taken a day off in seven years. "We have to take care of the cats, clean them and feed them, we have to do vet runs, we have to purchase supplies and we have to do monthly fundraisers," she explained.

Outgoing Triple PLAY program coordinator Tanya Watts and Debbie Novak, who is replacing her, came up together to speak on behalf of 660 local children who benefit from the program breaking down barriers to involvement in sport and leisure activities.

"Kids being in recreational programs do better at school, they have increased concentration, it improves mental health, they're physically active and it reduces the youth crime rate. There's a long list," Watts said.

Rev. Henry Hildebrandt spoke on behalf of the Kenora Fellowship Centre.

"It's always great to have people come through our doors who have never been there before," he said. "Meeting the people and learning what we do. There are still many people in Kenora who have never stepped through the doors. Meegwich to the students of the Youth in Philanthropy."

This is the second year the facility has operated 24 hours a day, where 10 to 12 homeless and underhoused people can have a meal and sleep every night.

St. Thomas Aquinas High School senior, Matthew Schottrolff has been with the program since his Grade 9 year. The first time he conducted site visits or made phone calls to agencies, he was nervous. Now, he's a leader, speaking on behalf of his school.

"There were a lot of younger members," he said. "We had some new blood coming in. For the past couple of years, it has been the same people coming through but we had a recruitment drive and it was about teaching the new students what it's all about and securing the future."

The Kenora Sexual Assault Centre received TA's first donation of \$700 to purchase materials and food supplies



JON THOMPSON

The contributions of kenora's youth to local charities was acknowledged this week by the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Community Foundation.

for its support group of 13 to 19 year-old young women.

"For the past five years, we have been running a support group for young women and this is what we're going to be using them money for that we have received today," said Mercedes Alarcon, saying group discussions on sexual violence, abusive relationships, healthy relationships and body image are integral to the self-assurance of a community.

"It's heartwarming to see young people looking beyond their social circle and into the entire community," said Darlene Stepanick, speaking on behalf of the Breakfast for Learning Program at Pope John Paul II School, now in its third year.

Ron Baker represented the Lake of the Woods Railroaders Museum.

"This money will be used to make the museum more accessible for the dis-

abled," he said, inviting the students to visit for "the treat of your life" in teaching them how to operate the model trains. "We encourage you to keep up the good work to make Kenora a city to be proud of."

Lil Anderson accepted for Iggy's Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, a 260 acre span in which nearly all species of boreal birds can be found. Her speech used humour to convey both the need for funds and the need for volunteer support and succession planning as she joked how it was easier to feed an eagle but harder to feed smaller birds with her aging eyesight.

"It's less running around and catching natural food when I can buy it from the store," she said. "Ten or fifty years ago, we would have had a whole different outlook on wildlife rehabilitation and now a whole new group of people have to be willing to get involved with it."