

The Lake Report
Vol. 4, Issue 26 | July 1, 2021

'Just believe us, that's been the hardest'

"Even before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission we've been talking about how there were more children, we've always known that. We've been talking about how pervasive racism is, we've always known that. We've been talking about how there was an active plan to erase Indigenous people, and we've always known that. What's been difficult is that for generations we've been saying this and Canadians have been going, 'Well, no. That can't be.' They're minimizing or diminishing it and trying to distance themselves."
"This is shared history. The residential school discoveries aren't about Indigenous people as much as they're about what Canadians did."

Karl Dockstader
Executive director
Niagara Regional Native Centre

BEST FRONT PAGE

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Each of the 1,140 stars above represents an Indigenous child lost to Canada's residential school system, in Kamloops, Coquasset and lesser known sites in Regina, Brandon and Lestock. These numbers are sure to grow.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RICHARD HARLEY

Editorial
Everyone is responsible, including the media, for ignoring residential school genocide.
See Page 4

Dealing with tragedy
Columnist David Israelson says Canada Day is a time to start dealing with our Indigenous history.
See Page 6

Calls for justice
Niagara's Indigenous community is calling for active reconciliation, and is holding a sacred fire.
See Page 9

Educate yourself
Indigenous lecturer says self-education is an important step toward making amends.
See Page 13

The Lake Report

THIS YEAR YOUR NEWSPAPER TOOK HOME ...

5 1ST PLACE

1 2ND PLACE

5 3RD PLACE

AWARDS IN THE ONTARIO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION COMPETITION

"Boom! This front page knocked me back in my seat. The clear winner as soon as it popped up on my screen. Simple. Powerful. Extra powerful because it landed on Canada Day. Powerful because of the words of Karl Dockstader. It's a front that stops you, then makes you want to turn the page and read more. This is one of the best community newspaper front pages I've ever seen — almost certainly better than anything I ever designed — and I was a community journalist for 34 years."

- Judge Richard Dal Monte

HUMBLED TO BE HONoured BY OUR PEERS

Editorial Team The Lake Report

The Lake Report has been honoured with five first-place provincial awards in recognition of the newspaper's journalism, advertising and community service in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

In the paper's first year participating in the Ontario Community Newspapers Association's annual Better Newspaper Competition, The Lake Report also won second place in one category, five thirds and three honourable mentions.

The paper's 14 awards were more than any other newspaper in the province received.

In the overall General Excellence category (6,500 to 12,499 circulation), The Lake Report placed third among 19 entrants.

A panel of three judges, two from British Columbia and one from Nova Scotia, said the paper was "a pleasure to read," with "a strong opinion section," and diverse, interesting stories — exclaiming "and there are a lot of them!"

Niagara-on-the-Lake native Richard Harley, founder and editor-in-chief of The Lake Report, said, "It's humbling and an honour to be recognized and singled out by your peers in the media industry."

In an era when media organizations face major financial challenges, The Lake Report is produced by a team of just two full-time journalists, one part-timer "and an army of community correspondents and freelance contributors," Harley noted.

"But we are really proud of what we have accomplished in the past four years and are indebted to the people of Niagara-on-the-Lake who let us into their lives every week to tell their stories."

The newspaper's Pandemic Heroes campaign was a major winner, described by judge Tim Shoultz of Kamloops, B.C., as "totally unique, compelling and visually arresting."

"This is one of the best community newspaper front pages I've ever seen."

JUDGE RICHARD DAL MONTE
COQUITLAM, B.C.

The 15-week project included a full-page in each edition from February through May 2021 honouring the hard work of individuals and groups in NOTL during the COVID pandemic. It was recognized with two firsts and one second-place finish.

The June 3, 2021, four-page special section wrapping up Pandemic Heroes, highlighted the whole four-month campaign and how the community pulled together during COVID. It earned top marks for Best Feature Pages and Best In-House Promotion.

That special section featured a front-page with a photo

mosaic created by Harley. It was composed of hundreds of other tiny photos assembled to depict the Queen Street clock tower.

The entire four-month project also took second-place honours for Community Service.

Our "simple, powerful" July 1 cover was "one of the best community newspaper front pages I've ever seen," said judge Richard Dal Monte, of Coquitlam, B.C.

The Canada Day edition depicted a Canadian flag at half-mast and included powerful words from Niagara Regional Native Centre executive director Karl Dockstader about anti-Indigenous racism.

Produced not long after the discovery of the remains on the sites of former residential schools, the design featured 1,140 tiny stars, representing the number of Indigenous children known to have been lost to the residential school system as of that date.

The page was conceived and designed by Harley and managing editor Kevin MacLean, with research and reporting by Evan Saunders.

Harley also took top prize in the Best News Photo category, for a Page 1 image taken at the height of the pandemic when the Canada-U.S. border was closed.

It depicted snowbird Cassandra Vinckers and her dog Fancy preparing to board a helicopter at Niagara District Airport for a quick hop over to Buffalo from where they would drive to Florida.

Harley, who was named in seven award categories all told, was third in the judging for the Photographer of the Year award.

"Harvest time," a behind-the-scenes look at the annual fall grape harvest, won Best Rural Story (circulation up to 9,999) for writer Jill Troyer and photographer Don Reynolds. It focused on the fall 2020 harvest at Chateau des Charmes winery in NOTL.

The Lake Report's third-place awards included one for Jessica Maxwell for Most Creative Grip and Grin Photo. Her innovative image depicted artist Filomena Pisano and her artwork being sold to support women's programs.

As well, a story by Troyer with pictures by Harley was third in Best Photo Layout. The feature, "Top Chefs' Asparagus Tips," was a three-page spread about cooking with asparagus and included ideas from six top chefs at NOTL restaurants.

Harley and MacLean also finished third in the Best Headline Writing vote.

The Lake Report also received honorable mentions for: Best Creative Ad, for Marion Minhorst's "Rent My Husband" handyman spot.

Best Feature or News Series (circulation under 9,999), to Elizabeth Masson, Evan Saunders and Harley for a series of four stories on the historic Rand Estate.

Online Breaking News Coverage by Harley, for early coverage of a multi-million dollar fire on Townline Road on Feb. 9, 2021.



Richard Harley, Publisher



Kevin MacLean, Editor



Jill Troyer, Reporter



Don Reynolds, Photographer



Evan Saunders, Reporter



Jessica Maxwell, Reporter



Elizabeth Masson, Feature Writer



Megan Vanderlee, Advertising



The Lake Report has featured 15 weeks of NOTL Pandemic Heroes. This week's pandemic hero is ...

YOU

A message from The Lake Report

For 15 weeks, starting way back on Feb. 18 and ending on May 21, we featured individual and groups across Niagara on the Lake who were recognized as Pandemic Heroes. From health care workers to restaurants, car washes, and many more, they were all deserving of recognition and celebration.



BEST FEATURE/ UNIT PAGES

“While it doesn’t have ads in the classic sense, this piece ties together a multi-week ad campaign in a totally unique, compelling, and visually arresting way that stands head and shoulders above anything else in the category. Amazing!”



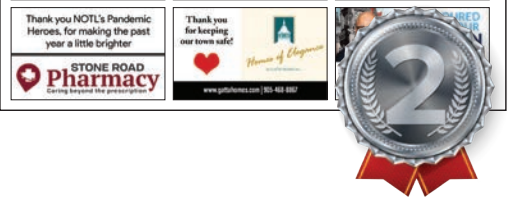
The Lake Report wants to help recognize NOTL's Pandemic Heroes - people who have made a difference, big or small, in a positive way. You can help us recognize someone in the community by sending a photo and a short bio to: Pandemic Heroes, Please send your nomination to: info@lakereport.com. A special thank you to the COVID-19 Heroes who have made our community a better place to live in these difficult times. Thank you!

Niagara EMS



Niagara EMS crew, the Fall, Fall/Winter, Team and Mental Health and Addiction Response Team at their headquarters in Oriskany, Niagara on the Lake. ©2021/05/12

Niagara's pandemic heroes recognize as Pandemic Heroes, we would like to thank Richard Harley for recognizing the report's pandemic heroes, he would like to see the things that the government is doing to help us in the future. He would like to see the things that the government is doing to help us in the future. He would like to see the things that the government is doing to help us in the future.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

“Wow! What a lot of work and creative design put into this promotion! The many photos are dizzying but what a concept to capture what many of us had seen on television and zoom meetings. Superb creativity! Another entry that has blown my socks off! Great job! Top marks for newspaper awareness on how much work throughout the year goes into a newspaper's job description. I have never before given 100 percent top marks in any entry but there is no room for improvement that I could see! Congratulations!”

The Lake Report's 15-week Pandemic Heroes series took home three awards this year. Two golds and one silver.

BEST IN-HOUSE PROMOTION

“Wow! What a lot of work and creative design put into this promotion! The many photos are dizzying but what a concept to capture what many of us had seen on television and zoom meetings. Superb creativity! Another entry that has blown my socks off! Great job! Top marks for newspaper awareness on how much work throughout the year goes into a newspaper's job description. I have never before given 100 percent top marks in any entry but there is no room for improvement that I could see! Congratulations!”

Sample newspaper page layout for 'The Lake Report' featuring a 'Harvest time' article, a 'Region launches bi-weekly garbage pickup' article, and a 'Santa Claus parade cancelled in NOTL' article. Includes a 'HALLOWEEN PHOTO CONTEST' banner.



Sample newspaper page layout for 'The Lake Report' featuring a 'Harvest time' article with photos of a person harvesting grapes. Includes a 'NEWS' banner.



BEST NEWS PHOTO

RICHARD HARLEY

“What an interesting shot. The image is really well implemented. The exposure and focus are practically perfect, but it's the choice of camera position - low with a clear sky background - and composition that really make it stand out. The tilt of the horizon and stance of the dog in the foreground lend the sense of energy and movement. The helicopter's rotor is stationary, but the door is open - again suggesting movement and that something is about to happen. This is an instance where the photographer took great advantage of a few simple elements in the scene to take a great photograph.”

Judge Chris Bush
Photographer
Nanaimo News Bulletin

BEST RURAL STORY
(CIRC. UNDER 9,999)
JILL TROYER & DON REYNOLDS



“Excellent feature — just the right number of images — to explain an important grape harvest in Niagara. We learn about the process, the impact of the weather and the people who bring their expertise.”

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

CIRC. 6,500 - 12,499

The Lake Report

"The Lake Report was a pleasure to read. The front page stories are locally relevant, interesting and the photos are well-considered to draw people in. The stories are diverse, interesting and there are a lot of them! A strong opinion section rounds out the publication."



MOST CREATIVE GRIP & GRIN PHOTO

JESSICA MAXWELL

"This isn't really in keeping with a Grip N Grin, but it is a great photo that tells the story in an instant. It's very effective."

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

RICHARD HARLEY



"Great initiative and wonderful photos! So often the importance of on-the-spot photos is forgotten. Not in this case. Keep up the good work, Richard!"

BEST FEATURE/NEWS SERIES (CIRC. UNDER 9,999)

BETSY MASSON, EVAN SAUNDERS, RICHARD HARLEY



"There was no shortage of quality writing in this category. It was difficult to judge."

BEST CREATIVE AD RENT MY HUSBAND

RENT MY HUSBAND in Niagara-on-the-Lake

See what he can do for you at: www.rentmyhusband-notl.com Or call me, Marion (905) 321-5776

"This ad is great! Love the simplicity of it. This ad jumped off the page with its fun message and simple design. Good to see humour too!!!"

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

RICHARD HARLEY

"In any other year, Richard Harley could have easily been named Photographer of the Year. His strong submissions are part of a surely great portfolio. Congratulations."



BEST HEADLINE WRITING

KEVIN MACLEAN & RICHARD HARLEY

"Well thought-out headlines with some creative font pairing."



BEST PHOTO LAYOUT

JILL TROYER RICHARD HARLEY

"Looks delicious and a concept that could be easily replicated in any foodie market (with almost any food)."

COOKING WITH ASPARAGUS

Photos by Richard Harley | Words by Jill Troyer

Asparagus is a versatile vegetable that can be prepared in a variety of ways. From simple roasted asparagus to more complex dishes like asparagus terrine, there are many ways to enjoy this vegetable. In this feature, we explore some creative recipes and techniques for cooking with asparagus.

John Vetro
Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery

Ryan Crawford
Ruffino's Pasta Bar & Grill

Chris Moses
OLIV

Jason Williams
The Cafe House

Joe Marchese
Twisted Vine

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STEFAN REGIER SALES REPRESENTATIVE



FROM ONE AWARD WINNER TO ANOTHER, CONGRATULATIONS!

WE ARE ENGEL & VÖLKERS

It's such a wonderful thing to see strong, independent news being recognized in our community. The Lake Report has proved in its four years of operation to be a trusted voice for Niagara-on-the-Lake, and we are thrilled to see the hard work being recognized with so many provincial awards for journalism, photography, design and advertising. A well-deserved honour for our small town newspaper.

From one award winner to another, congratulations.

Learn more at nancybailey.evrealstate.com

Nancy Bailey Recognized as “Elite Club” Advisor in Engel & Völkers Americas Network

Displaying exemplary production, Nancy Bailey achieves Diamond level distinction in global real estate brand’s 2021 Elite Club



Engel & Völkers Americas announced that Nancy Bailey has been recognized as a Diamond level Real Estate Advisor in the global company’s 2021 Elite Club. This distinction recognizes Engel & Völkers Americas advisors who achieved a minimum of \$250,000 in closed gross commission income or a minimum of 36 closed sides for the calendar year 2021.

“Nancy Bailey is a true representative of the expertise and unparalleled level of service that is consistently showcased by Engel & Völkers advisors worldwide,” said Scott Russell, License Partner and Broker of Record, Engel & Völkers Oakville. “Nancy’s outstanding achievements evidence her being a leader in Niagara’s local marketplace, and we could not be more proud.”

“I am honored to be part of Engel & Völkers’ prestigious 2021 Elite Club as a Diamond level advisor,” said Bailey. “Remaining completely focused on the needs of my market’s buyers and sellers has always been my strategy for success. The Engel & Völkers brand provides a supportive network and systems that exponentially increase my ability to service my clients.”

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