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AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1893.

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SNC warns of drought

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The South Nation Conservation (SNC) is asking residents to use less water as a drought continues in the area, causing some wells and small streams to run dry.

The SNC says we are now experiencing a moderate drought – meaning conditions have worsened since May, when a minor drought was declared. The SNC says as of July 7, weather stations in Cornwall, Brockville and Ottawa had registered below 60 per cent of normal precipitation. The conservation authority is asking people to reduce water consumption by about 20 per cent, and cut back on non-essential services, like car washing and lawn watering.

Intermittent rain hasn't been enough to pull the region out of drought, says SNC water resources analyst Golam Sharif, and about 15 or 20 residences have reported wells running dry or very low, he said. There was a similar situation in 2012, he said, and the SNC is continuing to monitor precipitation and stream levels.

The SNC says wells drawing from shallow, unconfined aquifers are more likely to run dry. Snow depth in the winter has an effect on these aquifers, and the SNC says this past winter, there was less snow than the previous five years. In addition, the melt was "very abrupt," which limited how much of the water made it into shallow aquifers.

The SNC says members of the Water Response Team has seen the effects of the drought on crop yields, and says prolonged drought could have an effect on forests and newly planted seedlings. Anyone experiencing water-related problems is encouraged to contact the SNC at 1-877-984-2948.

Colacem Canada report identifies six homes within 300 metres of proposed cement plant

The company has officially applied for the zoning changes it needs in L'Orignal. Read more on page A3 >

"Pokemon Go" craze reaches Vankleek Hill



Read more on page A5 >

Church will be rebuilt after fire



Fire, which destroyed 137-year-old church, likely caused by lightning

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ST-ISIDORE – The church community says it will rebuild following a devastating fire that tore through the St-Isidore Catholic

Parish on Saturday. The church was still smouldering on Monday. All that is left of the church is the skeleton of its heavy stone walls. Two days earlier, the entire community of St-Isidore was put on alert after a fire broke out in the attic of

the church. Around an hour after the blaze started, between 150 and 200 people were evacuated from the surrounding area. Fortunately, no one was injured.

On Monday, the fire was still burning in parts of the church, but

church officials remain optimistic and say they will rebuild.

Continued on page A2 >

Farm loses 56 cattle in second fire since 2013

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RICEVILLE – They say that lightning doesn't strike the same place twice, Chris Ryan might disagree. For the second time in three years a fire has devastated Ryandale Farm in Riceville. In between the two fires was a massive flood, which swelled The Nation River to heights not seen in more than 100 years. The Ryan family, which has been farming at this site for the past 136 years is once again faced with the process of rebuilding and starting over.

Chris Ryan and his family were away on vacation on Saturday, July 23, when a neighbour spotted smoke coming from Ryandale Farm, located on Riverbank Road. Ryan's father, Howard, had been by to milk the cows less than an hour before. The neighbour arrived to find the dairy barn on fire. Despite the risk to himself, firefighters say that he raced inside the barn and untied four or five of the Holsteins from their tie stalls, before smoke forced him to retreat.

The Nation Fire Chief Tobias Hovey had not yet gained control

of the fire raging at the St-Isidore Catholic Church when he received a call at 7:50 p.m. informing him that there was a confirmed fire at Ryandale Farm.

"It was a fully-involved fire when we arrived... A neighbour located more than a kilometre away saw the smoke and called us. He went to the farm, but he was unable to do anything other than untie a few of the cows," said Hovey.

The barn was more than 100 years old. With the fans running and the doors open to dispel the heat of the summer day, Hovey said that it created ideal conditions to burn hot and fast.

Fifty-six cows were inside the barn when it caught fire and only one managed to make it out.

"She walked out right in front of us and then she walked back in. When she walked out a second time we managed to shoo her into a field," said Hovey.

Sadly, Ryan said that the surviving cow had to be euthanized the following day, due to injuries it sustained in the fire.

Continued on page A3 >



Fire destroyed a 100-year-old barn at Ryandale farm on Saturday.

PHOTO: LORRAINE BOYER/FACEBOOK

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In recognition of the Ontario civic holiday, The Review offices will be closed on Monday, August 1, 2016. The deadline for ad submissions for the August 3 edition is Friday, July 29 at noon. Turn off Pokemon and spend time with family or friends this weekend!

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