

## Kudos

June 7, 2016

This recap may be a bit different in nature than what my readers are accustomed to. So first of all, I wish to extend congratulations to Karl Habla. Karl was presented with a plaque naming him the 2016 Ontario senior of the year. Karl emigrated to Canada and as he put it he could have chosen any city he wanted to live and work in, decided to make Timmins his new home. Thank god Karl chose Timmins. He has been a positive driving force in this city. Through his many positive letters to the editor, in our local paper Karl has demonstrated just how fortunate we are to live in such a wonderful city, warts and all. Mr. Canada as he has become known as, has lead our Canada Day walk each and every year, for as long as I can remember. The award that was presented to him last night was richly deserved. I along with many of our city residents say Thank You Karl for showing us just how fortunate we are to be living in such a great country and such a great city as well.

Another bouquet should be awarded to our hard working Timmins economic development corporation . This well run department has been diligently working behind the scenes to secure the arrival of international companies to our fair city. TEDC has proven it's worth time and time again.

This department is now attempting to woo the film industry to our city. I am certain that most citizens would agree that the TEDC is worth every penny that the taxpayers of Timmins spend on this department. They are doing their very best to help diversify our economy, and create new employment opportunities for the residents of this city. Congratulations to the TEDC and it's hard working employees.

Another well deserved slap on the back must go to WAYNE BOZZER and the Timmins sports Hall of fame committee. Wayne has demonstrated that through sheer determination, and hard work you can overcome most obstacles. Wayne showed us slides of the newly renovated auditorium at the McIntyre arena. It absolutely looks magnificent and what better place to have such a display than the iconic McIntyre arena. Kudos to WAYNE and his small hard working committee for putting this on in such a short period of time. We also hope that he was successful in convincing Rogers Hometown Hockey and it's broadcast crew to put on a telecast during this up coming 2016/2017 NHL season. This is not merely a telecast but a major event that our city could benefit in demonstrating our rich hockey culture both past and present. We have produced no less than 39 NHL players, this I back checked myself and I now can say that I trust councillor Doody's memory. That is by far more than any other city the size of Timmins in Canada. #2 is not even close.

So a lot has been said about our Timmins junior hockey team The Rock having fallen on hard times.

I can attest to this personally that after being part of the initial start up board of directors for the Timmins Golden Bears, Running a junior hockey team is very very expensive. Volunteers work endless hours, and spend a heck of a lot of time away from their families. This team and it's board of directors have never made a demand of the city. They approached the city with a problem and like good partners usually do asked if they could sit down and together come up with a solution to overcome this hiccup to their start up. To not work with them at his point would be just plain unfair. They have stated that they would repay the debt incurred, and I believe them. This team unlike the bears are here for the duration and we definitely should support them. To all the volunteers who work diligently behind the scenes, I wish you all well moving forward.