

# THE FREE PRESS

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Check out our poll



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MARCI DINEEN PUBLISHER  
TOM VILLEMAIRE MANAGING EDITOR

First Nations artist Danny Beaton is walking in opposition to Site 41. He says when it comes to the dump site, Simcoe County should ...

## WALK AWAY



Danny Beaton and Steve Ogden at the gates to Site 41.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICJA ROZANSKA

## Environmental law group backs ‘Walk for water’

BY DOUGLAS GLYNN

The Canadian Environmental Law Association has expressed its support for an environmentalist's walk to Queen's Park to draw attention to what he says is "the potential destruction of one of most pristine water supplies in Ontario."

Danny Beaton is planning to walk from Tiny Township to Queen's Park to appeal to Premier Dalton McGuinty to stop Simcoe County's proposed Site 41 landfill.

In a letter to Beaton, Christopher Waffle writes, in part, that the association "supports your efforts to safeguard the drinking upon which you, your family and your community rely."

In another show of support for Beaton, Wayne and Carolynn Fishleigh of Penetanguishene gathered a group of drummers together last night to drum

for an end to Site 41. They said they chose Remembrance Day because those who died fighting for Canadians' freedom were also protecting the right of their children and grandchildren to clean drinking water and a safe, healthy environment.

Beaton, a Mohawk writer and filmmaker with roots in the Six Nations, plans to start his 160-kilometre, seven-day walk on Friday from the Tiny Township farm of Steve Ogden at 1249 Marshall Road.

He says he will begin at 8 a.m. with a traditional Native Sunrise Ceremony, followed by drumming and singing "to honour our sacred Mother Earth and Mother Earth's sacred blood, the Water, and our Great Creator and all the life-giving forces."

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To honour our sacred Mother Earth and Mother Earth's sacred blood, the Water, and our Great Creator and all the life-giving forces.  
**DANNY BEATON**  
**WRITER/FILM MAKER**

## Wintery weather promises to be unpredictable

BY SHAWN GILLCK

Canada's best-known climatologist is keeping a weather eye on the skies these days.

David Phillips of Environment Canada said the only thing that's certain about the weather for the next two or three months is that it will be unpredictable.

"The winter forecast is like the economy — it's up and down every day," he said. "Every day we look at the models and it's all over the place and you don't want to see that. So you're not exactly sure where the win-

ter is going to come from."

As he said that, he pointed out that for two days north Simcoe County had been the warmest spot in Ontario and Canada during the 'Indian Summer' heat wave that delighted so many people last week. On Nov. 5, the thermometer topped out at 22.7 Celsius, a new record for the area.

"Maybe they're Obama winds," he joked. "But it's not going to continue."

While such mid-autumn heat waves from the south aren't uncommon, Phillips said this one was exceptional — and something we might not have

seen the last of.

"I can't say for sure that we might not have some more of these," he said.

The long-term seasonal forecast is unpredictable because, for the first time in several years, there is neither an El Nino or a La Nina forming in the Pacific Ocean.

As most people are aware, the El Nino phenomenon occurs when pockets of water in the Pacific become abnormally warm, which frequently means warmer, wetter winters for the eastern continent. The La Nina is its opposite, often generating exceptionally

cooler winters in eastern North America.

"Right now we're into what the Spanish would call La Nada — which means nothing."

In their absence, the prevailing systems affecting our weather here in Southern Ontario will depend on whether the 'polar express' arrives, giving us what Phillips calls a "Siberian winter," or whether more southerly flows dominate, providing a "Phoenix winter."

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## HDH not on council agenda

Citizens disappointed after learning

BY DOUGLAS GLYNN

About 30 supporters of Citizens for HDH (Huron District Hospital) attended council's general committee meeting Monday expecting to hear a discussion about their request for support of a publicly-elected hospital board.

But they left disappointed.

The group had asked council in October to support MPP Peter Kormos's proposed private members' bill calling for the election of all hospital boards in Ontario as part of the 2010 municipal elections.

But a discussion of their request got bogged down in technicalities and the matter was deferred.

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### SIMCOE LIFE MAGAZINE

November / December 2008

Get some tips on how to prepare your home for the holiday season without breaking the bank in the latest issue of Simcoe Life Magazine. Also read about how many of us are consumed by the spirit of the season. Sticking with the holiday season, you'll also find a few suggestions on some wonderful local outings.

In business, discover how manufacturing in Barrie is holding its own and we'll tell you about one successful businessman who has become a champion for lost causes.

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