

Nouvelles

L'Ontario équipe des élèves de Barrie pour le succès - 7 juillet 2009

Le gouvernement McGuinty investit dans la nouvelle génération d'emplois

Les élèves d'un collège de Barrie obtiennent les outils qu'il leur faut pour réussir.

La province fournit au [Georgian College](#)* (* Sites Web en anglais seulement) près de 1,6 million de dollars en améliorations pour les salles de classe et les laboratoires.

Les élèves obtiendront un nouvel équipement qui les aidera à mieux apprendre et à mieux se préparer pour le marché du travail à la collation de leur diplôme. Par exemple, pour s'initier aux soins aux nourrissons, les élèves-infirmières et élèves-infirmiers utiliseront des [bébés Sim](#)* (* Sites Web en anglais seulement) -- mannequins qui stimulent le rythme cardiaque et d'autres fonctions du corps. Quant aux élèves des études culinaires, ils disposeront d'un [nouveau refroidisseur à courant d'air](#)* (* Sites Web en anglais seulement) -- congélateur spécial qui refroidit rapidement les aliments pour prévenir la croissance de bactéries.

Le présent investissement fait partie du plan du gouvernement destiné à renforcer l'économie, en investissant dans les [compétences et connaissances](#) des Ontariennes et Ontariens. Cette année, les 24 collèges de la province se partageront 40 millions de dollars pour moderniser les ressources et l'équipement.

Quick Facts

- L'Ontario possède le plus fort niveau de participation du monde occidental en matière d'éducation postsecondaire.
 - En Ontario, le pourcentage d'élèves obtenant leur diplôme d'un collège est monté à 65 pour cent, alors qu'il n'était que de 57 pour cent en 2002-2003.
 - Au cours de la prochaine décennie, sur dix nouveaux emplois créés en Ontario, près de sept emplois nécessiteront une formation ou une éducation postsecondaires.
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Related Links

[Voyez ce que vous pouvez faire après l'école secondaire.](#)

[Vous avez perdu votre emploi? Explorez les possibilités Second Career* \(* Sites Web en anglais seulement\) offertes par le Georgian College.](#)

Quotes

L'éducation postsecondaire est plus importante que jamais dans la nouvelle économie. Aujourd'hui, nous donnons à un nombre accru d'élèves les outils qu'il leur faut pour réussir.

En investissant dans de nouveaux logiciels, ordinateurs et équipement dans les collèges de l'Ontario, nous veillons à ce que les élèves puissent continuer à obtenir l'éducation de haute qualité qu'il leur faut afin de se former pour les postes de demain. Nous pouvons ainsi renforcer notre économie et engendrer la prospérité

–Dalton McGuinty

pour toutes les familles de l'Ontario.

L'investissement d'aujourd'hui dans le Georgian College fera en sorte que les élèves recevront l'éducation de haute qualité dont ils ont besoin pour être concurrentiels dans l'économie actuelle.

–John Milloy

–Aileen Carroll

Le temps vous appartient.



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Publié le 07 juillet 2009 à 08h13 | Mis à jour le 07 juillet 2009 à 08h15

Les autistes plus rapides



Photo: Martin Chamberland, La Presse



Mathieu Perreault
La Presse

Les autistes réussissent jusqu'à 40% plus rapidement un test de résolution de problèmes.

Une nouvelle étude conjointe de l'Université de Montréal et de Harvard révèle que d'autres tests de mesure de l'intelligence ne parviennent pas à bien rendre compte des capacités des autistes, qui utilisent notamment mieux les parties de leur cerveau qui traitent l'information visuelle.

Le test a été fait sur 33 personnes de 14 à 36 ans, dont 15 autistes.

réservés.

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Le Droit 8-07-2009

Un 15^e Québécois emporté par la grippe A

QUÉBEC – Une quinzième personne est décédée de la grippe A (H1N1) au Québec. Il s'agit d'un homme dans la vingtaine, de la région de Lanaudière, qui souffrait d'obésité. Les autorités médicales ont également confirmé six nouveaux cas de grippe porcine dans la province. Le bilan s'établit maintenant à 2187 personnes infectées par le virus depuis le début de l'écllosion en avril. Les symptômes de la grippe A (H1N1) sont similaires à ceux de la grippe saisonnière, mais les personnes qui présentent des symptômes plus sévères comme de l'essoufflement ou des douleurs thoraciques devraient solliciter une évaluation médicale. Pour réduire la propagation du virus, la Santé publique recommande de suivre des moyens simples d'hygiène comme le lavage des mains fréquent et de tousser ou d'éternuer dans le pli du coude ou le haut de l'épaule plutôt que dans ses mains.

LA PRESSE CANADIENNE



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Publié le 08 juillet 2009 à 07h35 | Mis à jour à 07h42

Décrocher en vacances



Silvia Galipeau
La Presse

Ah! les vacances! Enfin du temps pour se reposer, souffler, relaxer, croyez-vous? Erreur! Un Québécois sur deux avoue revenir épuisé de ses deux semaines estivales de congé. Essoufflé, éreinté. Bref, pas du tout ressourcé. Bonne nouvelle, cher vacancier cerné: ça se soigne!

Après avoir écrit un *Éloge de la lenteur*, semé les graines du mouvement Slow et éveillé la planète entière aux bienfaits de souffler un peu, d'en faire moins mais mieux, voilà que l'auteur canadien Carl Honoré propose un nouveau concept: les vacances Slow.

Pendant une semaine, en octobre, l'homme que *Newsweek* a baptisé «le porte-parole international du loisir», animera une première expérience du genre: une retraite Slow dans une ferme du XVIIe siècle, Pian di Castillo, en Ombrie, au coeur de l'Italie, a-t-il annoncé quand nous l'avons joint à Londres, où il habite.

Au programme, du plaisir, bien sûr, mais dans des choses toutes simples: promenades; cueillette de champignons, et pourquoi pas d'olives; courses au marché local; cuisine traditionnelle italienne et dégustation de bons vins du coin. En prime, discussions et débats sur la manière de faire les choses plus simplement et pourquoi.

«Les vacances devraient être, par excellence, le moment de se débrancher. Mais nous avons le même virus de l'hyperactivité pendant nos vacances qu'au travail, dénonce-t-il. Même quand on quitte le bureau pour un nouveau milieu, on y arrive avec le même esprit, le même métronome intérieur.»

Du coup, en vacances, les gens se sentent «obligés» de courir. Un récent sondage Angus Reid révèle que 49% des Québécois reviennent encore plus fatigués de leurs vacances, à cause, entre autres, d'un horaire trop chargé. «On voit les vacances comme un moment pour faire, au lieu d'un moment pour être. Quand on a un moment sans distraction, sans tâche, on sent un grand stress, le stress du temps perdu.»

Du coup, les vacanciers bourrent leur agenda d'activités. Jean-Luc Beauchemin, directeur de l'Association des agents de voyages du Québec, peut en témoigner. Au cours du dernier mois, plusieurs clients ont acheté des billets pour Las Vegas, les prix étant particulièrement intéressants. «Ils voulaient aller voir le Cirque du Soleil, faire une randonnée pédestre près du Grand Canyon, une mini-croisière sur le Colorado, tout ça en trois jours! dit-il. Je pense que les gens vivent leurs vacances au même rythme qu'ils travaillent: en accéléré, surchargés.»

Mais il n'est pas nécessaire d'agir ainsi. Pour vivre ses vacances plus lentement, Carl Honoré suggère quelques pistes: réduire le nombre d'activités (au lieu d'en faire plus, essayer d'en faire moins: en plus d'être reposant, c'est économique!); se trouver un passe-temps slow (tricot, yoga, jardinage); marcher (pas rapides, mais bien tranquilles); enlever sa montre; méditer et, pourquoi pas, carrément se débrancher.

«C'est certain que prendre ses courriels ou regarder son BlackBerry tous les jours, ce n'est pas se donner des conditions gagnantes pour décrocher en vacances», convient Éric Tremblay, psychologue industriel chez André Filion&Associés. Encore faut-il décrocher véritablement, sans tomber dans le piège inverse: se surcharger d'obligations familiales autres. «On est dans une société de performance, dit-il. Du coup, en vacances, on veut être un super parent, et ça non plus, ça n'est pas reposant», prévient-il.

Inutile, donc, de se fendre en quatre pour faire plaisir à tout le monde, promettre ceci aux enfants, cela aux grands-parents, afin de rattraper le temps perdu pendant l'année (elle aussi, surchargée d'activités). Solution? S'écouter, conclut le psychologue. Oui, faire plaisir aux autres, mais aussi à soi. «Cela éviterait bien des problèmes d'épuisement...»

Pour en savoir plus:

Carl Honoré: www.carlhonore.com

Pian di Castillo: www.italian-holidays-ltd.com

Des vacances épuisantes en chiffres

En moyenne, les Québécois prendront 2,5 semaines de vacances cet été;

12% n'en prendront pas.

22% prendront une semaine ou moins.

49% des Québécois reviennent encore plus fatigués de leurs vacances.

38% disent souffrir d'un manque de vacances.

28% ont du mal à se détacher du stress lié à leur travail.

20% consultent les courriels liés au travail pendant leurs vacances.

17% ont déjà annulé des projets de vacances à cause du travail.

Sources: sondages Angus Reid, Harris/Decima, CROP-CRHA



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**2 SEMAINES
D'ESSAI
GRATUIT**



Publié le 07 juillet 2009 à 22h26 | Mis à jour le 07 juillet 2009 à 22h29

Dernière journée du procès O'Brien

Le sort du maire entre les mains du juge



Larry O'Brien ne retournera pas à son fauteuil de maire avant de connaître le verdict, a confirmé son équipe. S'il est trouvé coupable, le maire sera automatiquement démis de ses fonctions et est passible d'une peine d'emprisonnement de 5 ans.

Patrick Woodbury, LeDroit



Dominique La Haye
Le Droit

Le procès du maire d'Ottawa, Larry O'Brien, s'est terminé, hier, par la plaidoirie de son avocat qui a cherché à réduire en miettes la crédibilité de Terry Kilrea, le témoin clé de la Couronne sur qui repose une grande partie de sa preuve.

Me Michael Edelson a dépeint M. Kilrea comme un homme « hypocrite », « mesquin » et rusé tout en donnant l'impression d'être idiot. Il a ajouté qu'il était atteint « d'amnésie sélective », ne se rappelant que des informations dont il voulait bien se souvenir, et qu'il s'était servi des médias pour étaler au grand jour sa version des faits avant qu'elle ne se retrouve devant les tribunaux.

Me Edelson a ainsi voulu répliquer au procureur de la Couronne, Me Scott Hutchison, qui, la veille, avait

décrit, lors de sa plaidoirie, M. Kilrea comme « un témoin calme, impartial et honnête », ayant fait de son mieux pour dire la vérité à la Cour. La poursuite avait aussi insisté sur le fait que son témoin n'avait aucune once de machiavélisme.

M. Kilrea est cet ex-candidat à la mairie de 2006 à qui M. O'Brien est accusé d'avoir promis une nomination au fédéral, à la Commission des libérations conditionnelles, s'il se retirait de la course lors des élections municipales.

Désir exprimé par Kilrea

Or, l'avocat du maire a mis l'accent sur le fait que c'est M. Kilrea lui-même qui avait initié le sujet de son désir d'être nommé à la Commission des libérations conditionnelles lors de sa rencontre avec M. O'Brien à un café du 700, Sussex, le 12 juillet 2006.

Cette rencontre avait eu lieu à la demande de M. O'Brien qui, à cette époque, songeait à se lancer dans la course à la mairie. Il avait admis aux policiers durant son interrogatoire que M. Kilrea constituait un obstacle à son élection, puisque leur vision politique centre-droite divisait le vote, et qu'il voulait ainsi le convaincre de se retirer de la course.

Me Edelson a rappelé que son client avait dit aux policiers ne jamais avoir promis une nomination à M. Kilrea. Il aurait tout au plus cherché à lui permettre de « poursuivre son rêve », mais aurait fait marche arrière quelques heures après leur rencontre, sous les conseils de son ami John Reynolds, un conservateur fédéral reconnu.

C'est M. Kilrea, soutient Me Edelson, qui se serait imaginé qu'une promesse de nomination flottait dans l'air en interprétant mal les conversations qu'il avait eues avec M. O'Brien et son entourage, dont Dimitri Pantazopoulos qui avait réalisé un sondage pour le maire sur les intentions de vote.

Malheureux au travail

L'avocat de la défense a aussi fait valoir que M. Kilrea, un fonctionnaire provincial occupant les fonctions de shérif-huissier, n'était pas heureux à son travail. Me Edelson a insisté sur le fait qu'il avait tenté à maintes reprises de changer de carrière pour notamment être nommé juge de paix ou encore élu maire d'Ottawa en 2003 et en 2006.

« Il était malheureux, il cherchait un autre emploi », a-t-il soutenu.

Me Edelson a aussi indiqué que, contrairement à ce que laisse entendre la Couronne, les échanges de courriels admis en preuve ne viennent pas corroborer la version de M. Kilrea, mais plutôt celle de son client. Il a soutenu qu'il n'est pas question d'une nomination dans ces courriels entre MM. O'Brien et Kilrea. Selon Me Edelson, ces échanges portent plutôt sur les problèmes qu'éprouvait M. Kilrea avec son employeur et la possibilité de se trouver en conflit d'intérêt en se présentant aux élections.

L'avocat de l'accusé s'en est aussi pris à la crédibilité de deux autres témoins principaux pour la Couronne : John Light et la députée provinciale conservatrice de Nepean-Carleton, Lisa MacLeod.

Me Edelson a précisé que M. Light n'était pas impartial, puisqu'il travaillait à cette époque pour la campagne de M. Kilrea et qu'il était un « acteur partisan impliqué dans les magouilles politiques » nuisant à M. O'Brien.

Me Edelson a aussi insisté sur le témoignage jugé vague de Mme MacLeod, dans lequel elle avait affirmé que M. O'Brien lui avait parlé d'une nomination pour M. Kilrea.

En revanche, Me Edelson a vanté l'interrogatoire de son client avec les policiers, dont la vidéo a été remise à la Cour. Il a mentionné que le maire avait coopéré à l'enquête, alors qu'il n'était forcé de le faire.

Son interrogatoire « sonne vrai » et rapporte les événements de façon authentique, a-t-il dit.

« Il y a amplement de doute raisonnable [...] pour en arriver à un verdict d'acquittement », a-t-il conclu.

Dans sa contre-argumentation, le procureur de la Couronne, a indiqué que ce n'était pas important qui avait initié le sujet de la nomination au fédéral, puisque M. O'Brien y avait donné suite en lui donnant une valeur d'échange en vue de remporter les élections. Me Hutchison a souvent insisté sur le fait que M. O'Brien a prétendu avoir de l'influence auprès du gouvernement fédéral pour poursuivre cet échange avec M. Kilrea, un acte jugé criminel.

Vacationing priest facing child porn charge

Kenya-based Catholic missionary arrested in Ottawa

BY BRENDAN KENNEDY, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 8, 2009

A Catholic missionary priest vacationing in Ottawa has been charged with possessing child pornography during his time in the city.

Rev. James A. Jordan, a 63-year-old Canadian missionary based in Kenya, was arrested Monday after a week-long investigation, police said.

He is accused of possessing pictures of child pornography between March 1, 2008, and July 6, 2009.

Jordan appeared in court Tuesday and was released on a \$5,000 bond with the conditions that he appear personally in court; continue to reside at the Oblates residence at 130 Springhurst Ave.; surrender his passport; and not possess pornography, use the Internet, visit a place with Internet access or possess any material that could store digital media, among other things.

Jordan is a member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, a religious order focused on Catholic missionary work in Canada and abroad.

He works for the Oblates of Mary Immaculate Lacombe Canada as part of their mission in Meru, Kenya, said Rob Meilleur, a spokesman for the organization.

Meilleur also said Jordan had been in Ottawa for about a week.

"We're all sort of sitting here a little bit in awe to some extent," Meilleur said. "We'll have to let the process of the judicial system take its course."

Meilleur said Jordan was not involved in any parish work, and he didn't work with children in Kenya.

He was helping local people to build a water system and working with Kenyans looking to join the Oblates' order, Meilleur said.

He is not from Ottawa and was strictly vacationing in the city, Meilleur said, adding that Jordan had no previous disciplinary record with the order and had been involved with the Oblates since 1968.

On Tuesday afternoon at the Oblates residence, next to St. Paul University, Jordan refused to speak to The Citizen.

He is to appear in court next on July 21.

Police say anyone with information regarding the case should call the Ottawa Police Internet Child Exploitation Unit at 613-236-1222, ext. 5640.

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Programs take aim at the way immigrants feel about themselves and their families

BY LOUISA TAYLOR, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 8, 2009 7:48 AM

OTTAWA — Although 12-year-old Zakaria Omar was born in Canada, he has a good idea what it's like to be young and new to a place.

Zaki -- as his friends call him -- lives with his family in a Donald Street apartment building with a high population of newcomers and others living on low incomes. He sees the struggles of young immigrants and refugees every day in the building's community room. Zaki used to go to the homework club there for help with his French assignments, because his parents, both from Somalia, don't speak French. Now he goes to hang out and help others.

"Some of the kids don't know English that well, and their parents don't either, so I help them with their homework," says Zaki, who is starting French immersion at Henry Munro Middle School in September.

"The kids are from all over -- South Africa, Saudi Arabia, other parts of Africa. They struggle a lot. They're not used to living in Canada. People should pay more attention to them and help in the community."

Zaki's point is echoed by a report from the Social Planning Council released last week. Using data from the 2006 Census, the report -- Immigrants' Economic Integration: Successes and Challenges -- found that Ottawa risks losing immigrants to other, smaller cities, in part because of the difficulty immigrants and refugees are having making a go of their new lives here and in other large urban centres. Things that used to be short-term struggles are increasingly becoming long-term problems -- finding jobs, finding quality housing newcomers can afford and navigating the health system, to name the biggest.

Many of the adults struggling to settle here have children going through their own settlement experience. According to the SPC report, in 2006, there were 6,455 recent immigrants in Ottawa age 14 and under, and another 4,805 between the ages of 15 and 24. That adds up to 11,260 young people -- 11 per cent of residents under the age of 24 -- navigating childhood and adolescence while also making the transition to life as a Canadian kid.

A young person who moves here from another country faces a whole spectrum of things on top of the usual trials of growing up, says Hamdi Mohamed, executive director of the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO).

"They live in a community that is really struggling, in a family that is struggling, where the father, the mother, the other siblings are all going through their own settlement experiences," says Mohamed. "On top of that, the father may have three jobs, the mother may be working as well, so the problems are

there, but the role models are not available."

Mohamed says immigrant children struggle in particular with multiple identities. They are new Canadians who often have strong ties to their homeland, something the Canadian-born may tell them is disloyal. They may be teenagers keen to fit in, even if fitting in means clashes with the cultural norms cherished by their parents.

"The reality of these children is they're told 'You must fit in this box or you don't belong.' And yet they know they have multiple identities, but they don't yet know that there are beautiful things about that," says Mohamed.

Settlement services typically offer support for adults or families, and not much has been addressed specifically to youth -- until now. OCISO is one of several local agencies that have launched youth-specific initiatives in the past year or are in the planning stages of new programming.

Several years ago, OCISO developed a respected program of Multicultural Liason Officers providing information and support to newcomers and visible minorities in the schools, but the agency gradually realized students also need help after school and during the long summer months. It has been developing plans to build a full curriculum of life-skills courses for immigrant youth and their parents, to be offered after school and -- if successful -- integrated into the schools as credit courses. Mohamed says the courses are a deliberate step toward changing how immigrant youth view themselves and their families, to challenge the less-than-welcoming messages they might receive elsewhere.

"It's great that we help those who come to us, but we're only helping the 50 who come to us," says Mohamed. "We want everyone in the city to understand the systemic barriers for successful integration, to poke holes in areas that are really exclusionary and give parents and youth the tools they need."

Mohamed says OCISO has signed an agreement with Citizenship and Immigration Canada to fund development of the curriculum, and had expected to begin this summer, but the promised funding has not materialized. A similar complaint was made recently by the Catholic Immigration Centre, the lead agency for a proposal backed by the City of Ottawa to create a council to examine integration issues. Mohamed hopes the money will come through in time to begin the project in the fall.

Another agency with big plans is the Youth Services Bureau. It has become common to see newcomer youth in the YSB's emergency shelter for young women, says Alex Munter, the agency's executive director.

The women seek help when their living arrangements break down, and they have nowhere else to turn. YSB staff also report a high demand for employment support among immigrant youth.

"I've spoken to many, many really talented, bright kids who became much-appreciated summer staff for

employers, but were unable to find jobs until they got involved with our Youth Opportunities Program," says Munter. "When your surname is Mohammed and you live in Banff-Ledbury, it's harder to find work."

The bureau has created an

ethno-cultural advisory committee, helping youth do outreach with other youth, and is launching a program in the fall to give staff more diversity training. It is also creating an in-house committee of staff and youth called the Leadership Table.

"The goal of that will be to look at all our programming and to look at our human resources processes, because really we need to be recruiting in ethnic and racial minority communities and making sure the staff of YSB better reflects the diversity of Ottawa's population," says Munter. "Our staff are seeing more and more young people showing up at the door with different needs. We have to make sure our services in 2009 reflect the Ottawa of 2009."

Back on Donald Street, Zaki -- who wants to be a police officer when he grows up -- helps his friends overcome the problems of daily life, the seemingly small things that can become big ones.

"Sometimes they get into trouble because they can't speak the language, and they can't explain themselves. So I translate a little bit," says Zaki, who speaks some Arabic in addition to English, Somali and French. "Sometimes they don't know the rules here in Canada, because the rules in their home country are different."

Stephanie César Young is a youth counsellor with the Eastern Ontario Resource Centre, which operates the Donald Street community room. Herself a child of Haitian immigrants, César Young finds that her work reminds her of some of the struggles she experienced growing up.

"Immigrants' parents often say, 'You can't do that -- it's not our culture'," says César Young. "Kids are in tug of war, want-ing to be like their peers and still respecting their culture or their parents' wishes. That's a struggle."

Sometimes counselling can help smooth things out and help children explain their viewpoint to their parents. Other times, the parents need support understanding the pressures on their children, in particular with helping them through a school system with new structures and routines.

César Young says that while she sees programming gaps "everywhere," it's true that "more and more, we're filling those gaps."

We have to, says Munter.

"We have this enormous richness of resources, of young people with talent and energy and skills. As a

community we need them to become adults who are successful, happy, contributing to the community, and contributing to the economy. Right now they face many, many barriers."

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Daycare worker faces assault charge in court

Victim in alleged incident now a boy 'having a hard time in his life,' mother says

BY DAVE ROGERS AND TIM SHUFELT, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 8, 2009

OTTAWA—A Gatineau daycare worker has appeared in court to respond to accusations that she physically assaulted a toddler in her care.

Monique Trudeau, 57, faces charges related to an alleged assault at Garderie Clair de Lune, a licensed day-care centre on Boulevard Moussette in Gatineau's Hull sector on March 18.

Owner Claire Lepage said Tuesday a worker at the centre was suspended immediately and fired two days later after another employee witnessed an assault on a 21/2-year-old boy.

There are 44 children aged one to five at the centre.

"We did take that seriously and we took action right away, but we had to do an investigation," Lepage said. "We informed the boy's parents the following day, and after that all the parents with children at the daycare centre. It was an isolated case that has never happened before in our 20-year history.

"The boy was not injured."

The boy's mother, who can't be named to protect his identity, says she has noticed changes in his behaviour.

"He went from being a kid at the age of two who arrived at that place very happy, to being a kid that was really having a hard time in his life."

She added she put her trust in those caring for her child and felt an enormous sense of violation upon hearing of the allegations.

"You shouldn't be going to work keeping your fingers crossed that your kid's not getting abused at this day care."

She has been away from work ever since and now cares for her son full-time.

"I feel like my main job right now is to show him that life is not really supposed to be a struggle, especially at his age. I have to put the anger aside and go push him on the swings, those kinds of things."

The boy is also in the child-abuse program at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, where he is making progress, she said.

However, aside from the accusation against her son's primary caregiver, the boy's mother complained that she was not informed of the alleged assault until the end of the following day. She also said she was the one who alerted police.

Trudeau is to appear in court again on Sept. 21.

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Priest arrested on child-porn charges: police

BY CITIZEN STAFF, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 7, 2009

OTTAWA — An Ottawa man police identified as a priest has been charged with possessing child pornography.

Father James A. Jordan, 63, was arrested Monday following a short investigation, police said. He appeared in court Tuesday morning and was released with conditions. He's due to appear again on July 21.

Police would not say which church or parish Jordan works for.

They say the investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding the case should call the Ottawa Police Internet Child Exploitation Unit at 613-236-1222 ext. 5640.

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Serious flu symptoms can quickly turn into H1N1: experts

BY SHARON KIRKEY, CANWEST NEWS SERVICE JULY 8, 2009

Anyone who develops serious flu-like symptoms should seek immediate medical attention, because no one can predict when swine flu will turn life-threatening in otherwise healthy people, disease experts are warning.

Severe cases are occurring, in which the infection starts off like regular seasonal flu, with fever and cough, but then the lungs rapidly become inflamed and stop functioning.

"It looks to most of us like a primary viral pneumonia that deteriorates five or six days into therapy," says Dr. Allison McGeer, director of infection control at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital. "It's really severe illness."

As of July 3, there had been 8,883 confirmed cases of the H1N1 flu virus, or swine flu, across Canada, 663 of which have led to hospitalization, and 29 that ended in death.

Meanwhile, swine flu is showing signs that it can move outside the respiratory tract to other parts of the body, something regular flu viruses normally do not do.

Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta found H1N1 virus in the small intestines of ferrets infected with H1N1 isolates taken from three people who developed mild, severe and fatal flu.

The finding could explain why swine flu is causing vomiting and diarrhea in about 40 per cent of cases, symptoms that aren't typical of garden-variety flu.

"That's not normal. Influenza should just be in the lung," said Earl Brown, an influenza expert at the University of Ottawa.

The virus didn't spread to other organs. But it suggests H1N1 influenza A is hardier and can survive in the environment longer than normal flu.

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Take bullying seriously

THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 8, 2009

Re: Zero tolerance policy fails to prevent west-end student from being bullied, July 1.

As retired teachers, we want to congratulate reporter Tim Shufelt on his excellent article. The safe schools manager's claim that "bullying is taken very seriously by our principals" begs the question that if this is so, why did the principal ignore the parent's phone calls until the police were called in?

No student should have to endure what this young man went through. We hope that this article unleashes a tidal wave of responses from other parents with similar complaints to ensure that the safe schools managers, superintendents and principals are pressured into designing a more uniform and effective approach to dealing with and preventing verbal and physical abuse in our schools.

Doug and Judy Robinson,

Ottawa

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Borne case cuts deepest in diocese

Police receive new complaint against Pembroke monsignor

BY KELLY EGAN, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JULY 8, 2009 6:57 AM



Kelly Egan

Photograph by: The Ottawa Citizen, The Ottawa Citizen

Of the 52 priests listed in the clerical directory at the Archdiocese of Pembroke, four are conferred the honorary title of monsignor.

One is retired. One is serving a jail term. One has just been charged with sexual assault.

These are, indeed, trying times for Roman Catholics in the upper Ottawa Valley.

Nor is it over. The OPP said Tuesday that new information, in the form of a fresh complaint, had been received in the ongoing matter of Msgr. Robert Borne.

This is the case that has cut the deepest.

Msgr. Borne, 60, was charged in April with gross indecency, indecent assault and breach of trust in connection with three alleged victims between 1977 and 1995.

He was not just another priest.

Part of a well-known Pembroke family, Msgr. Borne was sometimes called the bishop's right-hand man.

For many years, he was the parish priest at St. James Church in Eganville, taking over at the end of 1995 in the aftermath of a terrible fire, a seminal event in the life of the village.

As part of his duties, he was also pastor for a mission church, Nativity of Mary, in Golden Lake.

He later took over a small parish in Cormac, also helping to organize the annual pilgrimage to a shrine dedicated to St. Ann every July. It attracted hundreds and was often featured on the front pages of weekly newspapers.

Msgr. Borne also served as a bishop's assistant and with the chancery office in Pembroke.

All of which to say this: As a cleric, he was here, there and everywhere in the religious life of Renfrew County.

And he is accused of breaking trust in a way that shakes the foundation of people's faith.

One would have thought it would be an opportunity for Bishop Michael Mulhall to address the parishioners of St. James -- indeed, all Renfrew County Catholics -- and the broader community.

He has chosen not to. Instead, early on, he released a prepared statement.

"As Bishop of the Diocese of Pembroke, I wish to express my deep concern, and that of the diocese, for the people who have brought forth allegations against Msgr. Borne. Our commitment is to work in an open and cooperative way with the civil authorities as they endeavor to unfold the truth. Many persons are deeply troubled by these events and we will do all we can to express a spirit of honesty and compassion to all concerned.

"Our mission as a church is to build a supportive community. We wish to allow this mandate to inspire us as to how we can assist all persons affected by these matters."

As recently as Tuesday, he has chosen not to comment. This is an unwise option, and here's why.

Setting aside Msgr. Borne's matter, history has taught us that secrecy is a big part of these cases. Victims take a long time to come forward. There is guilt and shame, misplaced. So often, the church knew something.

When was the last time you heard a bishop say publicly, in effect: "We messed this up, in a major way. We broke a sacred trust. Any other victims, please come forward. All we can do is try to make it right"?

Instead, with rare exceptions, there is silence.

Rob Talach is a lawyer in London, Ont., with extensive experience in dealing with the victims of abuse at the hands of clerics.

He represents 15 victims of Msgr. Bernard Prince, 73, a priest attached to the Pembroke diocese who was sentenced to four years in prison in January 2008. He was convicted of molesting 13 young boys over a 20-year period.

Talach says there is a disconnect between how the church reacts in a pastoral setting to its parishioners and how the institution reacts to allegations -- criminal or civil -- of abuse. "If I sued IBM, I'd probably get about the same reaction as when I sue the church."

He agreed that bishops have many options in reaching out to Catholics without jeopardizing criminal cases. "I don't know about this bishop, but generally, they haven't handled it very effectively."

The loss of trust is at the heart of these cases, Talach says. It is a common theme among victims.

"The breach of trust is one of the most paramount things. That is a very difficult thing to get through life with," he said. "You don't trust other people at all. Your personal relationships are impacted, your work, your education is affected. They clearly lose their belief in a higher being."

Trust is a thing built brick by brick. It doesn't happen overnight, though it can be lost that quickly.

But, surely, the first step in rebuilding is communicating, not hiding behind thick stone walls.

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